

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

**Date:** Wednesday 24 June 2026  
**Time:** 10:00 am  
**Meeting Room:** Council Chambers  
**Venue:** 126-148 Oxford St  
Levin

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## Council

# OPEN AGENDA

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### MEMBERSHIP

**Mayor** His Worship The Mayor Bernie Wanden  
**Councillors** Councillor David Allan  
Councillor Mike Barker  
Councillor Nola Fox  
Councillor Morgan Gray  
Councillor Clint Grimstone  
Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa  
Councillor Sam Jennings  
Councillor Lani Te Raukura Ketu  
Councillor Jo Mason  
Councillor Katrina Mitchell - Kouttab  
Councillor Paul Olsen  
Councillor Alan Young

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Full Agendas are available on Council's website  
[www.horowhenua.govt.nz](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz)

Full Agendas can be viewed at:  
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

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**Note:** The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Members require further information relating to any reports, please contact the Chief Executive Officer or the Chairperson.



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

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## **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!
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## 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](mailto: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, 27 May 2026

#### 5.2 Meeting minutes Public Excluded Meeting of Council, 27 May 2026

#### Recommendations

That the meeting minutes of Council, 27 May 2026 be accepted as a true and correct record.

That the Public Excluded meeting minutes of Council, 27 May 2026 be accepted as a true and correct record.



File No.: 26/369

## 6.1 Central Districts Water - Approval of Deed of Support

Author(s)	Jacinta Straker <b>Finance Workstream Lead, Central Districts Water</b>
	Chris Dyhrberg <b>Executive Director WSCCO Establishment</b>
Approved by	Daniel Haigh <b>Group Manager Community Infrastructure   Tumu Rangapū, Tūāhanga Hapori</b>
	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this paper is to seek approval for Central Districts to obtain independent establishment funding, instead of funding the remainder of the programme through Council Debt, as was originally planned.
2. A key requirement to obtain independent funding is that each Council must approve a Deed of Support for Central Districts Water (CDW). This will allow CDW to borrow directly with the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) and its Transactional Bank. The Deed of Support is required because Central Districts Water doesn't yet have its Assets or liabilities and is not yet completing water services operations.
3. The key reason for seeking the independent funding is to allow for the accelerated completion of the digital program. This is to ensure that critical systems are implemented and ready to go for 1 July 2027, without putting additional pressure on Shareholder Councils' Borrowings. This will help to ensure optimal readiness before operations begin on 1 July 2027

#### **This matter relates to Future Fit Horowhenua District Council**

Adapt to legislative and structural changes that redefine Council's role, scope, and size across Local Water reforms

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

4. This decision requires Council approval.
5. Council approval of the Deed of Support requires Council to delegate authority to finalise, agree and execute the related documents presented to Council.

### SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

6. The approval of the Deed of Support, including the value, would not be considered significant as the Council guarantees have already been approved by Council as part of the Shareholder's agreement. The establishment budget, which is part of the Water Services Delivery Plan was approved by each of the shareholding Councils and the Department of Internal Affairs.
7. The key item that is changing is the timing of the programme and the requirement to bring the funding forward. The establishment funding required, once the deed of support is approved, will no longer be part of the Council Debt. Instead, it will be recorded within the Balance Sheet of Central Districts Water.

8. The approach to the guarantees has already been approved as part of the Shareholders' Agreement with CDW and the Shareholding Councils on the 29th of April.

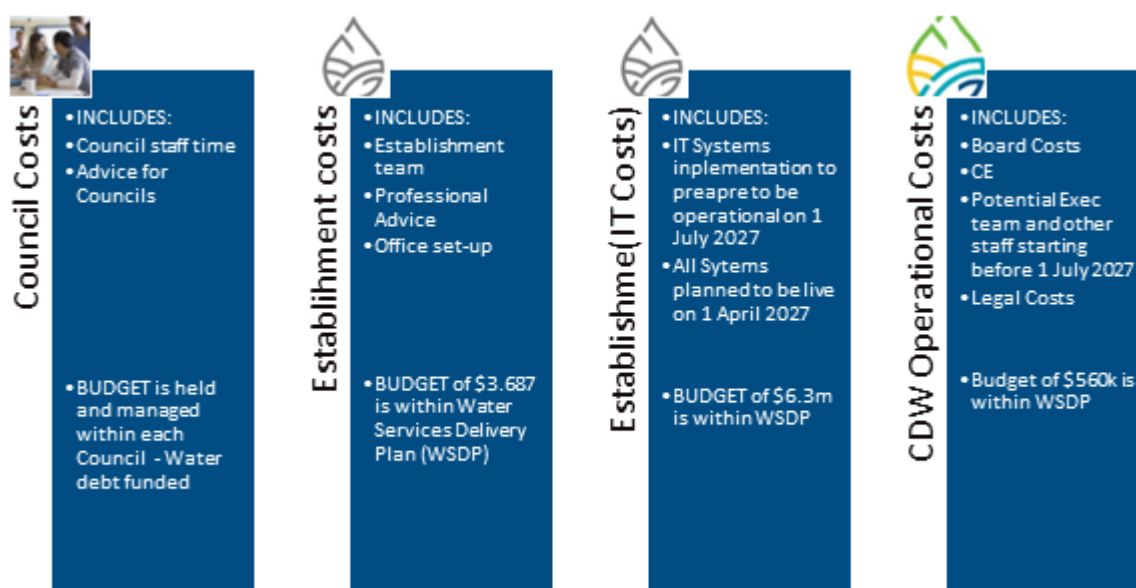
### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council agrees to enter into the Deed of Support (current draft for discussion attached as Appendix 1) for CDW for the purpose of enabling CDW to obtain independent funding during the establishment period from 1 July 2026.
- B. That Council delegates authority to agree and approve the final version of the Deed of Support to the Mayor and an elected member.
- C. That Council approves the execution of the Deed of Support on behalf of the Council by the Mayor and an elected member.
- D. That Council agrees to enter into the LGFA documentation including the accession deeds to the LGFA Multi-Issuer Deed and Notes Subscription Agreement for CDW (Accession Deeds), security stock certificates in relation to the LGFA Guarantee and such other documentation as required for Council to support CDW joining LGFA and acceding to the Multi-Issuer Deed and Notes Subscription Agreement (Ancillary Documents).
- E. That Council delegates authority to agree and approve the final versions of the Accession Deeds and Ancillary Documents to the Mayor and an elected member.
- F. That Council approves the execution of the Accession Deeds and Ancillary Documents, on behalf of the Council by:
- F.1. in the case of deeds, the Mayor and an elected member; and
- F.2. in the case of any other document, the Mayor and, an elected member or the Chief Executive.
- G. That Council agrees to enter into the documentation as required for Council to support CDW's entry into any establishment funding arrangements with CDW's transactional bank (Bank Documents).
- H. That Council delegates authority to agree and approve the final versions of the Bank Documents to the Mayor and an elected member.
- I. That Council approves the execution of the Bank Documents, on behalf of the Council by:
- I.1. In the case of deeds, the Mayor and an elected member; and
- I.2. In the case of any other documents, the Mayor and, an elected member or the Chief Executive.
- J. That Council provide all shareholder approvals required to approve all actions taken by CDW in connection with the establishment funding and entry by CDW into the required documents and transactions in relation to the establishment funding.
- K. That Council note that the CDW debt funding of up to \$20m will be in the form of a short-term line of credit from LGFA, which has recently approved CDW becoming an approved borrower from LGFA, and the newly approved transactional bank for CDW.
- L. That Council note that the independent debt lines will be used to fund the establishment budget of \$10.547m approved in the Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP), which includes \$6.3m for the digital programme and any other additional costs that were not anticipated as part of the preparation of the WSDP, which will require CDW Chief Executive and Board approval and will be monitored by the Shareholding Councils through the Shareholders' Committee.
- M. That Council note that in addition to the establishment programme budget, the independent CDW debt line will be used to fund CDW operational costs incurred prior to 1 July 2027, which will require CDW Chief Executive and Board approval and will be monitored by the shareholding Councils through the Shareholders' Committee.

- N. That Council note that a portion of the line of credit funding will also be used to ensure that CDW has sufficient cash or available funding facilities to meet its financial obligations as they fall due during the establishment phase and early years of operation.

## BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

9. Central Districts Water is the future regional water services entity for Horowhenua District, Palmerston North City and Rangitikei District.
10. The establishment programme is progressing well and is ahead of schedule. While the Board and Chief Executive were initially only anticipated to start in the last six months of the programme (approximately January 2027), the Board started on the 1st of April 2026 and have met four times. The Chief Executive recruitment is also progressing well and an appointment is expected in early July.
11. Below is a summary of the key areas that are incurring costs as part of the establishment and transition of water services to Central Districts Water:



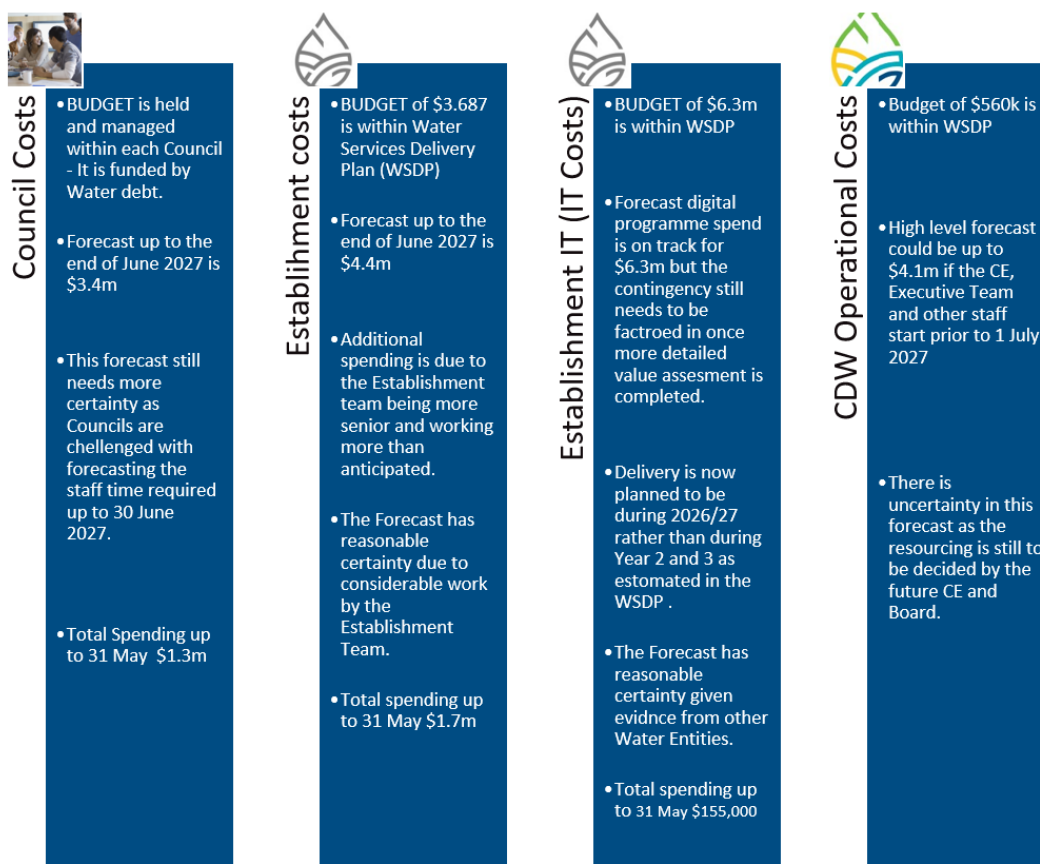
12. When the water Services delivery plan budget was set, the Digital Programme was originally anticipated to be completed in year 2 and 3 (2028 and 2029). Significant work has been completed on this programme, in collaboration with water entities across New Zealand to ensure consistency and opportunities for efficiency and shared services. The Board met and approved the Digital Strategy on 27 May and approved the Digital Programme on 10 June.
13. The approved approach is to prioritise standardisation and out of the box system configuration for utility companies, like CDW so that CDW can seek to gain benefits from the work that has occurred with other water entities across the Country. It will also provide opportunities for future shared services. It does though require the work to be done in advance of Day 1, to ensure that CDW is ready.
14. The setting up of the treasury programme is also well advanced and the CDW Board (10 June) and The LGFA Board (7 June) have approved CDW's LGFA accession. All shareholding councils (e.g., Palmerston North, Rangitikei) have also now approved the debt transfer method and principles for the transfer of water debt at 30 June 2027, and have also approved the guarantees required.
15. Providing a Deed of Support is the last step to allow CDW to obtain independent funding and ensure that the Digital Programme can be completed in advance of 1 July 2027. While the

Councils could continue to fund the CDW establishment programme, the acceleration of the digital programme could put significant pressure on the debt and borrowing limits of the Councils.

- The Council costs above that are estimated, will be transferred to Central Districts Water on 1 July 2027 using the novation method.[]

## DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

- Establishment Funding and CDW Operational Funding
- CDW is seeking support to obtain independent establishment funding and CDW operational funding to support activities through to commencement on 1 July 2027.
- The funding will allow CDW to operate independently and progress implementation activities without relying on interim arrangements through shareholding councils and putting undue pressure on Council borrowings. Horowhenua District Council has effectively been acting as the banker to date, which has created an additional administrative burden. The interim funding would mean that all future establishment costs would be funded and processed by the establishment team with the appropriate delegated approvals provided by the Board.
- The digital programme is progressing faster than anticipated when the water services delivery plan was approved.
- Below is a summary of the budget, actual spending up to 31 May 2026, and a current forecast for the full establishment programme up to 30 June 2027.



22. The independent debt funding will be used to fund the completion of the establishment programme. This includes establishment costs, establishment IT and CDW operational costs.
23. Any costs incurred for the establishment programme and the CDW operations costs incurred prior to 1 July 2027 will be subject to Board approval and will be managed in accordance with the CDW delegation policy which requires Board Approval. The financial results will be presented as part of every public Board agenda, which is available on the CDW website, and will also be presented at every Shareholders' Committee meeting.
24. The independent funding will also mean that the establishment costs, establishment IT costs and CDW operational costs will not require Councils to borrow to fund these costs. Instead CDW will fund them through their independent funding.
25. The independent funding of \$20m will also enable CDW to have available facilities to ensure it can appropriately manage its liquidity and cash flow risks by having sufficient cash or available funding facilities to meet its financial obligations as they fall due during the establishment phase and early years of operation.
26. Below is a summary of how the \$20m line of credit funding is intended to be used during the 2026/27 year:

	\$
Establishment costs	4.4
Establishment IT (IT costs)	6.3
CDW Operational costs	4.1
Short term available funds for liquidity risk and cash flow management	5.0
<b>27. Total borrowings capacity required</b>	<b>19.8</b>

### Accelerating Delivery of the Digital Programme

28. When the CDW Establishment Team was set up and started undertaking detailed programme planning, it became evident that some of the timing assumptions built into the WSDP were not realistic and some timeframes would need to be brought forward to ensure CDW would be fully operational by 1 July 2027.
29. Therefore, the establishment programme has progressed more quickly than anticipated in the WSDP.
30. The initial discovery work undertaken as part of the Digital Workstream identified that the original assumption that CDW would be able to initially utilise council systems was not correct. That assumption drove the WSDP plan for digital systems to be implemented in year 2 & 3. This has meant that the digital systems spend needs to be brought forward to the 2026/27 financial year.
31. The digital programme was estimated at approximately \$6.3 million in the Water Services Delivery Plan and remains broadly consistent with current planning assumptions.
32. Accelerating delivery does not represent an increase in programme scope but rather brings forward work already anticipated within the approved programme. Earlier delivery of the digital programme will enable operational readiness prior to commencement on 1 July 2027.
33. The Board approved the Digital Programme on 10 June and the Customer and Digital Work Stream are currently preparing to engage the market to select vendors and confirm pricing, which will support a higher level of confidence. Some level of contingency may be built into the forecast once more detailed costs are confirmed.

### Industry Alignment and Shared Services Opportunities

34. The digital programme is being developed using lessons learned from other water services organisations and utility providers throughout New Zealand.
35. CDW is seeking to adopt proven systems and technology platforms focused on utilities rather than developing bespoke solutions where practical. Alignment with emerging industry standards will reduce implementation risk and improve future flexibility.
36. The proposed approach will create opportunities for future collaboration and shared services with other water services entities across New Zealand. Shared services opportunities may include technology platforms, customer services, asset management systems, reporting tools and specialist support functions.
37. These opportunities have the potential to improve efficiency and reduce long-term operating costs for customers.

### Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

Options   Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits   Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks   Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Approval of the deed of support	Enable CDW to secure establishment funding. Maintain programme momentum. Allow acceleration of the digital programme. Improve operational readiness for commencement on 1 July 2027. Support future opportunities for sector collaboration and shared services. These risks can be mitigated through staged funding approvals, regular reporting, clear expenditure controls, and ongoing shareholder oversight.	Perceived lower direct control over expenditure during establishment. Higher average cost of borrowings than Council rated AA-
Option B Continue to fund establishment programme through Council Debt – Water + also fund digital programme in 2026/27 and any CDW operational costs required	A lower initial debt profile can strengthen CDW's financial position.	Pressure on debt limits for Council • Increased administration and resourcing costs for Horowhenua District Council. • Greater reliance on councils' existing resources. • Delay implementation activities
Option C (WSDP status quo - not recommended) Continue to fund establishment programme through Council Debt within the timeframe set	Lower borrowings in 2026/27	Potentially increase future costs through deferred delivery.

<p>out in the Water Services Strategy</p>		<p>Increase implementation risk. Delays in establishing CDW Increased risk of non-compliance with future water service requirements. Councils are unlikely to be able to deliver core systems on behalf of Central Districts Water Reduced ability to recruit key staff as system tools are not operational.</p>
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### Options Commentary | He Tāpiringa Kōrero Mō ngā Kōwhiringa

38. Option A provides a robust and well governed approach to maintaining the strong progress made by Central Districts Water and ensuring that it is able to progress with implementing the Digital Programme in Advance of Day 1, while also providing opportunity for the Board and CE to approved some resourcing to start some operational activities in advance of 1 July 2027.
39. Option B can still provide the ability for the establishment work programme to progress in line with the updated work programme, that includes completing the digital work programme during 2026/27 and funding the Board, CE and some key staff to start in advance of 1 July 2027. The shareholder Councils would however be required to bring forward their debt funding by up to \$10.6m to enable this to occur
40. Option C would require a significant change to the current planning for the digital work programme. The planned digital programme approved by the CDW board would need to stop completely.

### ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

41. The decision does not directly impact Māori. No specific engagement with Māori has been undertaken in relation to this report.

### CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

42. The decision does not directly have any impact on Climate Change. Options for sustainable funding sources with LGFA are planned to be used as Central Districts Water begins its capital programme.

### FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

43. The financial impacts of the recommendations have been highlighted within this report.

### LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

#### Legal and Risk Summary

44. The Deed of Support establishes a formal commitment by shareholder councils to support approved establishment funding requirements for Central Districts Water (CDW). In practical terms, the Deed operates similarly to a guarantee, providing assurance to CDW and its suppliers, contractors, and funding partners that shareholder councils will support agreed establishment costs if required. While the Deed does not create an immediate funding obligation, it represents a legally binding commitment that may require councils to provide financial support in accordance with its terms.

### Legal Considerations

45. The Deed of Support is intended to provide confidence that CDW has access to sufficient funding to undertake critical establishment activities and enter into contractual commitments necessary for its formation. By approving the Deed, Council acknowledges its obligations under the agreement and agrees to participate in the agreed funding arrangements should support be called upon.
46. As the Deed operates in a manner similar to a guarantee, Council is accepting a contingent liability. The actual liability will depend on whether funding support is required and the extent of any future call under the Deed.

### Risk Assessment

47. The principal risks associated with approving the Deed are:

#### Financial Risk

48. The Deed creates a contingent financial obligation for Council. Should CDW require support under the Deed, Council may be required to contribute funding in accordance with the agreed shareholder arrangements. There is also a risk that establishment costs exceed current estimates.

#### Guarantee Exposure Risk

49. As the Deed effectively functions as a form of shareholder guarantee, Council assumes a level of financial risk associated with decisions and commitments made by CDW during its establishment phase.

#### Implementation Risk

50. Changes in scope, regulatory requirements, market conditions, staffing costs, or programme timing may increase establishment costs or extend the duration of funding support requirements.

#### Governance and Accountability Risk

51. Councils are providing financial backing while operational responsibility sits with the CDW establishment programme. Effective governance, reporting, and shareholder oversight are required to ensure appropriate use of funds.

#### Credit Risk

52. Councils may be required to meet the obligations under the Deed of Support if the entity is unable to repay establishment funding or if establishment costs exceed available funding sources, however the amount is small relative to the future size of the entity, the funding is being used to create the capability required for commencement; and councils retain oversight through governance arrangements.

#### Reputational Risk

53. Should the establishment programme experience significant delays, cost overruns, or fail to achieve its intended outcomes, councils may face public and stakeholder scrutiny regarding their decision to provide support.

#### Risk Mitigation

54. These risks are mitigated through:
  - Clearly defined limits and conditions within the Deed of Support.

- Shareholder oversight of establishment activities and expenditure as occurs through the regular updates to the Shareholder's committee.
  - Regular financial, risk, and programme reporting.
  - Independent legal review of the Deed.
  - Ongoing monitoring of funding requirements and programme delivery.
55. Overall, while the Deed creates a contingent liability similar in nature to a guarantee, the risk is considered acceptable given the strategic importance of establishing CDW and the governance controls available to shareholder councils.

### **POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE**

56. Council's will need to ensure that any impacts on the individual Treasury Policies are considered. CDW is currently developing a Treasury Policy, that will be approved by its Audit, Risk and Finance Committee in August.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI**

57. Council's public information available on the website will be updated to reflect this decision.

#### **Communicating with our Community | Te Whakawhiti Pārongo ki te Hapori**

58. All budget and funding decisions are included within establishment team updated in the Board papers for Central Districts Water and they are included on the Central Districts Water Website, following each Board Meeting.

### **NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI**

59. Council officers will include the decisions in the drafting of the transfer agreement.

#### **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**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
A↓	Attachment 1 Deed of Support	16

SG draft – 11 June 2026

## DEED OF SUPPORT (LGFA ESTABLISHMENT FUNDING) CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER LIMITED

DEED DATED

2026

### PARTIES

1. RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL;  
HOROWHENUA DISTRICT COUNCIL; and  
PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL (each a **Shareholding Council**, together the **Shareholding Councils**)
2. CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER LIMITED (CDW)

### BACKGROUND

- A. CDW has been established as a "water organisation" in accordance with section 44 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 (**LG (WS) Act**).
- B. The Financiers may provide CDW with establishment debt financing prior to the Shareholding Councils transferring responsibility for providing water services and CDW subsequently becoming a "water services provider" (as defined in the LG (WS) Act) (**Pre-Establishment Phase**).
- C. As CDW will not have been transferred any assets, and will not be raising any revenue, during the Pre-Establishment Phase, it will need financial support in order to ensure that it can meet its obligations under the Establishment Financing (as defined below).
- D. Accordingly, CDW has requested, and the Shareholding Councils have agreed (in lieu of the Shareholding Councils borrowing and on-lending to CDW establishment debt financing during the Pre-Establishment Phase), that the Shareholding Councils will each provide financial support to CDW to assist CDW with meeting its obligations in relation to the Establishment Financing on the terms and conditions of this Deed.

### THIS DEED RECORDS THAT:

#### 1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

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##### 1.1 Definitions: In this Deed, unless the context indicates otherwise:

- (a) **Approved Financial Arrangement** means:
  - (i) any agreement or arrangement under which CDW may raise financial indebtedness from an Approved Financier;

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- (ii) any agreement or arrangement entered into by CDW with an Approved Financier for the purpose of interest rate risk management;
- (b) **Approved Financier** means LGFA, Selected Transaction Bank and any other provider of financial accommodation that is approved in writing by the Shareholding Councils;
- (c) **Selected Transactional Bank** means the bank approved by CDW's Board on 10 June 2026;
- (d) **Business Days** has the meaning given to the term 'working days' in the Property Law Act 2007;
- (e) **Establishment Financing** means any obligations of CDW under an Approved Financing Arrangement that:
  - (i) is incurred prior to the earlier of:
    - (A) the date upon which CDW is established as a "water service provider" under the LG (WS) Act; and
    - (B) 1 July 2027;
  - (ii) has been incurred in accordance with the approved establishment budget, approved by the CDW Board.
- (f) **Global Guarantee** means the guarantee granted by each of the Shareholding Councils respect of CDW's obligations dated on or about the date of this Deed;
- (g) **Guarantee Payment** means a payment by a Shareholding Council under the LGFA Guarantee or the Global Guarantee;
- (h) **LGFA** means the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited;
- (i) **LGFA Guarantee** means the guarantee and indemnity granted by each of the Shareholding Councils in favour of LGFA in respect of CDW's obligations to LGFA dated on or about the date of this Deed;
- (j) **Share** means, in the case of:
  - (i) Rangitikei District Council, 9%;
  - (ii) Horowhenua District Council, 25%; and
  - (iii) Palmerston North City Council, 66%;
- (k) **Support Event** means where CDW is required to make a payment to a Financier in respect of Establishment Financing but is not, or will not be, in a financial position to make the payment on the date required;

- (l) **Support Notice** means a notice, signed by two directors of CDW, delivered by CDW to each Shareholding Council, notifying the Shareholding Councils of an actual or anticipated Support Event and providing the details specified in clause 3.1; and
- (m) **Termination Date** has the meaning given to that term in clause 2.

**1.2 Interpretation:** In this Deed, unless the context indicates otherwise:

- (a) **Defined Expressions:** expressions defined in the main body of this Deed have the defined meaning throughout this Deed, including the background;
- (b) **Headings:** clause and other headings are for ease of reference only and will not affect this Deed's interpretation;
- (c) **Parties:** references to any **party** include that party's executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns;
- (d) **Persons:** references to a **person** include an individual, company, corporation, partnership, firm, joint venture, association, trust, unincorporated body of persons, governmental or other regulatory body, authority or entity, in each case whether or not having a separate legal identity;
- (e) **Plural and Singular:** references to the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (f) **Clauses/Schedules/Attachments:** references to clauses, schedules and attachments are to clauses in, and the schedules and attachments to, this Deed. Each such schedule and attachment forms part of this Deed;
- (g) **Statutory Provisions:** references to any statutory provision are to statutory provisions in force in New Zealand and include any statutory provision which amends or replaces it, and any by-law, regulation, order, statutory instrument, determination or subordinate legislation made under it;
- (h) **Inclusive Expressions:** the term **includes** or **including** (or any similar expression) is deemed to be followed by the words **without limitation**; and
- (i) **Documents:** references to any document (however described) are references to that document as modified, novated, supplemented, varied or replaced from time to time and in any form, whether on paper or in an electronic form.

**2. TERM**

This Deed will come into effect on the date of this Deed and will continue in full force and effect until the date that is 30 days after the first to occur of:

- 2.1** the date that CDW becomes a "water service provider" in accordance with the LG (WS) Act; and



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2.2 1 July 2027 (**Termination Date**).

3. **FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

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3.1 **Support Notice:** If, in the opinion of CDW, a Support Event has occurred, will occur, or is reasonably likely to occur, it may provide the Shareholding Councils with a Support Notice. A Support Notice must:

- (a) be delivered as soon as practicable after CDW considers a Support Event has occurred or may occur;
- (b) notifying the Shareholding Councils of the amount required to remedy the Support Event (**Support Amount**);
- (c) annex all supporting information and evidence that CDW considered in concluding a Support Event has or may occur; and
- (d) requesting payment of that Support Amount.

3.2 **Support Amount:** Upon receiving a Support Notice, subject to clause 5, the Shareholding Councils will each pay their Share of the requested Support Amount to CDW as soon as possible and in any event within 5 Business Days.

3.3 **Form of Support:** The form of any financial support provided to CDW by the Shareholding Councils under this Deed will, unless CDW and each of the Shareholding Councils agree otherwise (in writing), be a non-recourse grant payment.

3.4 **Alternative Support:** CDW and the Shareholding Councils each agree that they will, in good faith, enter into discussions upon request to identify other forms of financial support that may be provided by the Shareholding Councils to CDW to meet any Support Amount (in lieu of the form of support required under clause 3.3), provided that neither the Shareholding Councils nor CDW shall be under no obligation to accept any other proposed form.

3.5 **Cancellation Notice:** If, following the sending of a Support Notice (but before receipt of the relevant Support Amount), CDW determines the requested Support Amount is no longer required, CDW may send a notice (**Cancellation Notice**) cancelling the applicable Support Notice. Upon the issuance of a Cancellation Notice, the Shareholding Councils will be under no further obligation to provide their Share of the requested Support Amount to CDW in accordance with clause 3.2.

4. **SHAREHOLDING COUNCILS' LIABILITY**

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Notwithstanding anything else in this Deed, each Shareholding Council's liability under this Deed is several.

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**5. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

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Despite anything to the contrary in this Deed, the maximum aggregate amount recoverable (in respect of all Support Events) from the Shareholding Councils under this Deed, at any time, is an amount that is equal to:

- 5.1 \$20,000,000; *less*
- 5.2 the amount of any payments already made under this Deed in respect of any Support Event prior to that time; *less*
- 5.3 the amount of any Guarantee Payments made prior to that time.

**6. GUARANTEE CLAIMS**

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In the event that:

- 6.1 prior to the Termination Date, any demand is made on any Shareholding Council under the LGFA Guarantee and/or the Global Guarantee; and
- 6.2 following the receipt of that demand, a Shareholding Council makes a Guarantee Payment; and
- 6.3 as a result, that Shareholding Council is legally entitled to recover all (or part) of the Guarantee Payment from CDW (**Recovery Right**),

that Shareholding Council agrees that it waives all rights to the Recovery Right and will not seek to enforce any such Recovery Right against CDW.

**7. NOTICES**

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**7.1 Communications in writing:** Any communication or document to be made or delivered under or in connection with this Deed:

- (a) must be in writing;
- (b) in the case of CDW, must be signed by two directors of CDW; and
- (c) unless otherwise stated, may be made or delivered by letter or by email transmission in accordance with the notice details identified for each party with its signature block below (or any substitute address or email address or department or officer as one party may notify to the other party in writing).

**7.2 Delivery:** Any communication or document to be made or delivered by one Party to another under or in connection with this Deed will be taken to be effective or delivered:

- (a) if by way of letter or any physical communication, when it has been left at the relevant address or five business days after being deposited in the post, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to it at that address; or

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(b) if by way of email, only when actually received (or made available).

**8. MISCELLANEOUS**

- 8.1 Counterparts:** This Deed may be executed in any number of counterparts, and this has the same effect as if the signatures on the counterparts were on a single copy of this Deed.
- 8.2 Electronic Execution:** Each party consents to this Deed (or any counterpart of it) being executed in electronic form, being electronically signed (and, where witnessing of a signature is required, such signature being electronically witnessed), and being delivered in electronic form by means of an electronic communication, all in accordance with sections 222 to 227 of the Contract and Commercial Law Act 2017, and that the parties agree to be legally bound by this Deed being signed in this way.
- 8.3 Governing law and Jurisdiction:** This Deed is governed by New Zealand law. The courts of New Zealand have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute arising out of or in connection with this Deed (including a dispute relating to the existence or validity of this Deed).

**EXECUTED AND DELIVERED AS A DEED**

**[Council signing blocks to be inserted]**

**[CDW signing block to be inserted]**



File No.: 26/371

## 6.2 Adoption of Rates Resolution for Year Ending 30 June 2027

Author(s)	Kim Beattie Team Leader Revenue and Property   Kaiarataki i nga Moniwhiwhi me nga Papanoho
Approved by	Alison Diaz Chief Financial Officer
	Daniel Haigh Group Manager Community Infrastructure   Tumu Rangapū, Tūāhanga Hapori
	Brent Harvey Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience & Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the rates resolution for the financial year commencing 1 July 2026 and ending 30 June 2027.
2. Following adoption of the 2026/27 Annual Plan, including the Funding Impact Statement, at the Council meeting held on 27 May 2026, Council is now required to formally adopt the Rates Resolution.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. 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 2026 and ending on 30 June 2027:

#### (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 \$0.00348064 (GST Inclusive) of land value on every rating unit in the "District wide" category
- A rate of \$0.00174032 (GST Inclusive) of land value on every rating unit in the "Farming" category

#### (b) Land Transport (Roading) Rate

A targeted rate of \$0.00043367 (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 \$0.00050473 (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 \$357.40 (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 \$290.89 (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 \$299.23 (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 \$50.86 (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 \$55.26 (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 \$135.13 (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 \$804.89 (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 \$402.44 (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 \$577.51 (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 2026 to 30 June 2027 of:

- \$2.88 (GST Inclusive) per m<sup>3</sup> of water consumed in excess of 91m<sup>3</sup> per every quarter invoicing period on any rating unit connected to any water supply, except Foxton Beach.

- \$1.44 (GST Inclusive) per m<sup>3</sup> of water consumed in excess of 91m<sup>3</sup> 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 m<sup>3</sup> for the first 50 m<sup>3</sup> 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 2026 to 30 June 2027.
  2. **Step 2** - \$2.50 (GST Inclusive) per m<sup>3</sup> for the second 50 m<sup>3</sup> of water consumed per quarter in excess of 50 m<sup>3</sup> 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 2026 to 30 June 2027.
  3. **Step 3** - \$3.75 (GST Inclusive) per m<sup>3</sup> for the balance of water consumed per quarter in excess of 100 m<sup>3</sup> 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 2026 to 30 June 2027.

#### (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 \$1,035.93 (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 \$517.97 (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 \$0.00039575 (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 \$54.44 (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

- B. 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 2026	16 September 2026
Instalment Two	15 December 2026	16 December 2026
Instalment Three	15 March 2027	16 March 2027

Instalment Four	15 June 2027	16 June 2027
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Water-by-meter rates due dates 2026-2027			
Area	Water meters read during	Due date	Penalty dates
Foxton Beach 6-10, Shannon, Tokomaru	Jul-26	25-Aug-26	26-Aug-26
	Oct-26	25-Nov-26	26-Nov-26
	Jan-27	25-Feb-27	26-Feb-27
	Apr-27	25-May-27	26-May-27
Foxton Beach 1-5, Whirokino	Aug-26	25-Sep-26	26-Sep-26
	Nov-26	25-Dec-26	26-Dec-26
	Feb-27	25-Mar-27	26-Mar-27
Levin, Ohau, Foxton	May-27	25-Jun-27	26-Jun-27
	Sep-26	25-Oct-26	26-Oct-26
	Dec-26	25-Jan-27	26-Jan-27
	Mar-27	25-Apr-27	26-Apr-27
	Jun-27	25-Jul-27	26-Jul-27

### PENALTIES

- C. That the Council authorises the following penalties to be added to rates that are not paid by the due date:
- i. a charge of 10 percent on so much of each instalment that has been assessed after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026 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,
  - ii. a charge of 10 percent on so much of any rates levied before the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2026 which remain unpaid on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026.
  - iii. 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 6<sup>th</sup> January 2027.

### PAYMENT OF RATES

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

Levin	Main Office	Mon-Tue, Thu-Fri	9am to 5pm
	126-148 Oxford Street	Wed	9.30am to 5pm
Foxton	Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom	Mon to Fri	9.00 am to 4.00 pm
	92 Main Street		
Shannon	Library/Service Centre	Mon to Fri	1.00 pm to 5.00 pm
	Plimmer Terrace		
Tokomaru	Tokomaru Store	During store opening hours	
	Tokomaru Road		

General Council services are not currently provided on weekends and public holidays.

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.

**Note:** Water-by-meter Rates cannot be paid by credit card or at NZ Post Shops.

- E. 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

3. At its meeting held on 27 May 2026, Council adopted the 2026/27 Annual Plan which sets out the activities, budgets, and funding requirements for the financial year commencing 1 July 2026 and ending 30 June 2027.
4. Council agreed to defer setting the rates for the 2026/27 financial year until the June meeting to enable final growth in rateable properties to be confirmed and incorporated into the rates calculations.
5. The proposed rates have been developed in alignment with Year 3 of the 2024–2044 Long Term Plan and incorporate subsequent decisions made by Council through the 2026/27 Annual Plan process. The rates requirement reflects an including growth rates revenue increase of 7.5%.
6. In accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002:
  - 6.1. Section 23 requires Council to pass a resolution setting the rates.
  - 6.2. Section 24 requires Council to determine the due dates for payment by resolution.
  - 6.3. Sections 57 and 58 authorise Council to apply penalties to unpaid rates and prescribe the types of penalties that may be charged.

## NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

7. Following the setting of the rates for 2026/27, actions will be taken to apply the rates, due dates and penalties for 2026/27 financial year.
8. The Rating Information Database, Council's online rates enquiry tool, 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:

- 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.: 26/339

## 6.3 Adoption of Risk Appetite Statements

Author(s)	Catherine Godfrey <b>Risk Advisor   Kaitohutohu Morearea</b>
Approved by	Ashley Huria <b>Business Performance Manager   Tumu Tutukinga Pakihi</b>
	Nicki Brady <b>Group Manager Capability and Transformation   Kaiwhakahaere o Ngā Aheinga me te Whakaumu</b>
	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report seeks Council's adoption of the Risk Appetite Statements and updated section 3.1 Risk Appetite in the Risk Management Framework.

#### **This matter relates to Future Fit Horowhenua District Council**

Ensure governance and decision-making frameworks remain robust and future-proof to support community voice

#### **This matter relates to Delivering everyday**

While navigating a period of significant change, we will continue to deliver our services to our community effectively, efficiently, and reliably, maintaining strong business-as-usual performance as we implement our Council priorities.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. This report presents the outcome of the work undertaken to define Horowhenua District Council's risk appetite and seeks adoption from Council for the proposed Risk Appetite Statements and associated updated section 3.1 Risk Appetite in the Risk Management Framework.
3. On 20 May 2026, the proposed Risk Appetite Statements and associated updates to section 3.1 Risk Appetite within the Risk Management Framework were presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee in the Risk Appetite Report. The Committee endorsed the Risk Appetite Statements and associated updates to the Risk Management Framework and recommended that they be presented to Council for adoption.
4. The proposed Risk Appetite Statements are the result of a comprehensive development process with elected members, including workshops, a survey, and ongoing discussions, and have been built on the information and feedback provided by elected members to reflect Council's collective understanding, ownership, and agreement on its agreed risk appetite.

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

5. The Risk and Assurance Committee endorsed the Risk Appetite Statements and associated updates to the Risk Management Framework and recommended that they be presented to Council for adoption.
6. Council has the authority to formally adopt the Risk Appetite Statements and amendments to the Risk Management Framework.

## SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

7. While the establishment of Risk Appetite Statements is an important component of Council's governance framework, it does not directly result in immediate impacts of levels of service, assets, or the wider community.
8. As such, no formal consultation is required under the Significance and Engagement Policy.

## RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council adopts the Risk Appetite Statements.
- B. That Council adopts the change to section 3.1 Risk Appetite in the Risk Management Framework.

## BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

9. Work to define Council's risk appetite commenced in February 2026 and has been progressed in close partnership with elected members, ensuring the approach reflects governance perspectives from the outset.
10. Elected members were introduced to the concept of risk appetite through a dedicated Council workshop on 11 March 2026. Building on this, all elected members completed a comprehensive electronic risk appetite survey, providing insight into their individual and collective positions across Council's 16 risk categories, which align to the existing Risk Management Framework.
11. The survey results were carefully analysed and synthesised to inform the proposed risk appetite levels for each category. This analysis also underpinned the development of tailored risk appetite statements, as well as the overarching organisational risk appetite statement for Council.
12. While members of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and an independent member of the Risk and Assurance Committee also completed the survey to provide additional context, a deliberate decision was made to exclude these responses from the formal development of the risk appetite. This approach ensures the final position remains clearly grounded in the governance role and expectations of elected members.
13. The proposed risk appetite statements were presented at a Council workshop held on 6 May 2026, which was also attended by an independent member of the Risk and Assurance Committee. During the workshop, elected members provided feedback and further direction on the proposed risk appetite levels and supporting statements. In particular, guidance was sought and received on five risk categories where the appropriate risk appetite position was not yet clear, along with two additional categories where further discussion and refinement was considered necessary. Following the workshop, the proposed risk appetite levels and statements were amended to reflect this feedback, and these changes have now been incorporated into the attached draft Risk Appetite Statements document.
14. The Risk Appetite Statements and updates to section 3.1 Risk Appetite within the Risk Management Framework were presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee in the Risk Appetite Report on 20 May 2026. The Committee endorsed the Risk Appetite Statements and updates to the Risk Management Framework and recommended that they be presented to Council for adoption.

## DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

### Risk Appetite Statements

15. The Risk Appetite Statements represent the primary output of the work undertaken to define Council's risk appetite and are presented for adoption. These statements articulate the level

of risk Council is willing to accept across each of the 16 risk categories within the risk Management Framework, alongside an overarching organisational risk appetite statement.

16. Each statement sets a clear risk appetite level (from adverse to open) and provides supporting narrative to guide how risk should be approached within that category. Together, they establish a consistent basis for decision-making, enabling Council to balance opportunities and risks in alignment with its strategic and operational objectives.
17. The development of the Risk Appetite Statements has been informed by direct input from elected members through workshops, survey responses, and discussions. This ensures the final position reflects governance intent and provides a clear mandate for officers when making decisions, managing trade-offs, and escalating risks.
18. Once adopted, the Risk Appetite Statements will be embedded into Council's governance and operational processes. They will guide how risks are identified, assessed, articulated, and escalated, and will be reflected in the content and structure of Council reporting to support clear and consistent decision-making. Matters that fall outside the approved risk appetite will be explicitly identified and escalated to the Risk and Assurance Committee and/or Council for information, direction, or decision, as appropriate.
19. The Risk Appetite Statements clarify the distinction between governance and operational responsibilities. Council, in its governance role, sets and approves the level of risk it is willing to accept, while officers are responsible for operating within these parameters, including implementing controls, managing risks on a day-to-day basis, and escalating exceptions. This approach supports strong governance oversight while enabling effective and timely operational decision-making.

### **Risk Management Framework – Section 3.1 Risk Appetite**

20. In parallel with the development of the Risk Appetite Statements, it is proposed that section 3.1 Risk Appetite of the Risk Management Framework be updated to reflect this work and embed the risk appetite within Council's formal risk management approach.
21. The current section is high-level and anticipates the establishment of the risk appetite. The proposed update provides a more comprehensive and contemporary definition, clearly outlining the purpose of the risk appetite and how it supports decision-making across strategic, operational, and project activities.
22. The revised section introduces key concepts, including how risk appetite informs where Council should embrace opportunities, act cautiously, or avoid risk altogether. It also establishes the five defined levels of risk appetite and the characteristics of each, providing a shared understanding across the organisation.
23. Further, the updated section recognises that risk appetite is dynamic and influenced by a range of internal and external factors, including organisational capability, community expectations, legislative requirements, and financial constraints. This ensures the framework remains adaptable and responsive over time.
24. Adoption of the updated Risk Appetite section will ensure alignment between Council's agreed risk appetite and the overarching Risk Management Framework. This will embed risk appetite into business-as-usual practices.
25. Currently, section 3.1 Risk Appetite reads:

#### ***3.1 Risk Appetite***

*Risk appetite defines the amount and type of risk we are willing to accept in pursuit of our objectives. The risk appetite is set by Council and ELT. The risk appetite will be set in 2026.*

*Having a clearly defined risk appetite gives clarity to all at HDC about the nature and degree of risks that can be taken. Risk management is about finding an acceptable balance between the impact on objectives should a risk be realised, and the treating the risk to align with appetite.*

*Understanding risk appetite supports and informs planning and decision making.*

26. And it is proposed that section 3.1 Risk Appetite be amended to:

### *3.1 Risk Appetite*

*HDC's Risk Appetite is set by elected members and documented in the Risk Appetite Statements document.*

*Risk appetite refers to the amount and type of risk HDC is willing to accept, retain, or take in pursuit of its objectives.*

*A clearly defined risk appetite provides guidance about the nature and extent of risk that can be taken with our strategic, operational and project activities. It supports consistent and transparent decision-making.*

*Risk appetite helps determine:*

- *Where we should **embrace opportunities**.*
- *Where we should be **careful and deliberate**.*
- *Where risk is **unacceptable**.*

*It establishes clear boundaries for decision-making and ensures that risk-taking is intentional, consistent, and aligned with Council's obligations.*

*Risk appetite is dynamic and will evolve over time in response to changes in strategy, community expectations and the external environment. Key factors influencing risk appetite include:*

- *The external environment.*
- *Organisational capability, capacity and culture.*
- *Community expectations.*
- *Council's risk maturity.*
- *Business systems and internal risk management capabilities.*
- *Legislation and regulatory obligations.*
- *Financial constraints and assumptions.*

The table below defines HDC's five levels of risk appetite.

	Lower risk appetite ←————→ Higher risk appetite				
	Adverse	Conservative	Measured	Justified	Open
<b>Description</b> Definition of the risk appetite category	Avoidance of risk is the core objective.	Extremely conservative approach to risk.	Preference for delivering expected outcomes.	Willing to take strongly justified risks to achieve objectives.	Will take justified risks to harness opportunities.
<b>Tolerance for uncertainty</b> Willingness to accept uncertain outcomes or variation	Extremely low tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls are comprehensive, well designed and effective.	Low tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls are well designed and effective.	Limited uncertainty acceptable.  Controls are adequately designed and generally effective.	Some uncertainty accepted.  Controls may be incomplete or require strengthening.	High tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls may be absent, inadequately designed or ineffective. "Good enough" practice sufficient.
<b>Choice</b> Willingness to select an option puts objectives at risk	Will select the lowest-risk option.	Will accept risk only if essential and limited.	Will accept limited risk where clearly outweighed by benefits.	Will deliberately accept risk to achieve objectives, while actively managing impacts.	Will select options with the highest return, accepting the possibility of failure.
<b>Trade-off</b> Willingness to trade-off against achievement of other objectives	Will not accept trade-offs that compromise other objectives.	Will accept trade-offs only in exceptional circumstances and with extreme caution.	Prefers to avoid trade-offs but will consider them where impacts are limited and clearly understood.	Willing to make trade-offs under defined conditions to achieve priority objectives.	Willing to make trade-offs where doing so enables greater overall benefit or opportunity.

To assist, here is further information:

**Adverse (Lower Risk Appetite):** seeks to avoid risk. Characteristics include:

- Simplest, most controllable path preferred
- Best practice ("gold-plated") expected
- Investments justified by mandatory or critical need
- Trade-offs are rarely tolerated
- High requirement for certainty, assurance, and oversight

**Conservative (Moderately Low Appetite):** prefers safe, proven options, progressing only when risks are tightly controlled. Characteristics include:

- Preference for predictable and stable outcomes
- Proven best practice is expected in higher impact areas
- Limited tolerance for uncertain or innovative approaches
- Benefits must clearly justify even small risks
- Higher reliance on controls, monitoring, and oversight
- Avoids activities with unclear mitigations

**Measured (Moderate/Neutral Appetite):** comfortable proceeding as long as risks are well understood, well managed, and proportionate to benefits. Characteristics include:

- Risks and mitigations are identified and documented
- Balanced decision-making (no extreme caution or boldness)
- Benefits and costs are relatively aligned
- Controls are known and effective
- Low tolerance for surprises but some uncertainty is acceptable
- Trade-offs are considered where impacts are contained

**Justified Risk Appetite (Moderately High Appetite):** prepared to take risk when the benefits clearly outweigh the drawbacks, and when mitigations—while not perfect—are reasonable enough. Characteristics include:

- Clear benefits supporting a case for taking the risk
- Some uncertainty accepted and understood
- Controls may be developing or strengthening
- Trade-offs acceptable under defined conditions
- Organisational capacity exists to respond if outcomes differ from expectations
- Appropriate where innovation, transformation, or change is required

**Open Risk Appetite (High Appetite):** willing to accept greater uncertainty and imperfect controls to pursue significant opportunity. Characteristics include:

- Significant opportunity exists
- High levels of uncertainty anticipated
- Controls may be evolving, flexible, or intentionally light
- Outcomes may be variable and unpredictable
- “Good enough” practices are acceptable
- Trade-offs with other priorities are acceptable

### Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

27. Two options have been identified for consideration in relation to the Risk Appetite Statements and proposed updates to the Risk Management Framework.
28. The following options are presented for consideration:

Options   Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits   Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks   Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Adopt the Risk Appetite Statements and updated section 3.1 of the Risk Management Framework.	Provides clear governance direction on risk-taking across all 16 risk categories. Strengthens organisational risk maturity and decision-making consistency. Aligns risk management practices with Council's strategic objectives. Embeds risk appetite into business-as-usual processes.	May require ongoing refinement as Council's context evolves.
Option B (status quo) Do not endorse the Risk Appetite Statements or update the Risk Management Framework.	Allows for more time for refinement if required.	Delays embedding risk appetite into decision-making. Missed opportunity to strengthen governance and risk maturity.

### Options Commentary | He Tāpiringa Kōrero Mō ngā Kōwhiringa

29. On balance, option A is recommended as it delivers the greatest overall benefit to Council.

### ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

30. There has been no direct engagement with Māori in the development of the Risk Appetite Statements, as this work relates to internal governance and organisational frameworks.

### CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

31. The Risk Appetite Statements include consideration of environmental and adverse weather risks as part of Council's broader risk categories.

### FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

32. There are no significant direct financial implications associated with endorsing the Risk Appetite Statements or updating the Risk Management Framework.

33. Implementation will be managed within existing resources, although some internal effort will be required to embed the risk appetite into processes, systems, and decision-making practices.

### LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

34. There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

35. Establishing a clear risk appetite strengthens Council's overall risk management framework and supports compliance with good governance practices and relevant legislative obligations.

### POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

36. This report proposes an update to section 3.1 of the Risk Management Framework.

37. No other policies are directly impacted; however, the Risk Appetite Statements will inform the application of existing policies and decision-making processes across the organisation.

### NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

38. If adopted, the Risk Appetite Statements and updates to section 3.1 Risk Appetite within the Risk Management Framework will be rolled out across Council.

#### **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↓	Risk Appetite Statements June 2026	35



# Risk Appetite Statements

**2026**



## Document Review and Approval

Group	Capability and Transformation
Author	Catherine Godfrey (Risk Advisor)
Approved	
Review Date	
Version	

## Document Version History

Version	Reviewed By	Review Date	Reason
Draft	Risk and Assurance Committee	20 May 2026	Draft endorsed by the Risk and Assurance Committee

## Document Review Approach

The Risk Appetite will undergo a formal review every 12 months. Regular reviews will ensure that the Risk Appetite remains current, effective, and aligned with Horowhenua District Council's appetite for risk. In addition to the 12-monthly scheduled review cycle, the Risk Appetite may be updated at any time to reflect new or emerging risk management information and practices.

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## 1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to communicate the level and types of risk Horowhenua District Council (HDC) is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives.

The risk appetite is set by Council and provides a foundation for consistent decision-making and escalation across the organisation.

## 2. Risk Appetite

Risk appetite refers to the amount and type of risk HDC is willing to accept, retain, or take in pursuit of its objectives.

A clearly defined risk appetite provides guidance about the nature and extent of risk that can be taken with our strategic, operational and project activities. It supports consistent and transparent decision-making.

Risk appetite helps determine:

- Where we should **embrace opportunities**.
- Where we should be **careful and deliberate**.
- Where risk is **unacceptable**.

It establishes clear boundaries for decision-making and ensures that risk-taking is intentional, consistent, and aligned with Council's obligations.

Risk appetite is dynamic and will evolve over time in response to changes in strategy, community expectations and the external environment. Key factors influencing risk appetite include:

- The external environment.
- Organisational capability, capacity and culture.
- Community expectations.
- Council's risk maturity.
- Business systems and internal risk management capabilities.
- Legislation and regulatory obligations.
- Financial constraints and assumptions.

## 3. Defining HDC's Risk Appetite

The table below defines HDC's five levels of risk appetite, forming a structured continuum to support consistent interpretation and application of risk appetite across the organisation.

	Lower risk appetite ←————→ Higher risk appetite				
	Adverse	Conservative	Measured	Justified	Open
<b>Description</b> Definition of the risk appetite category	Avoidance of risk is the core objective.	Extremely conservative approach to risk.	Preference for delivering expected outcomes.	Willing to take strongly justified risks to achieve objectives.	Will take justified risks to harness opportunities.
<b>Tolerance for uncertainty</b> Willingness to accept uncertain outcomes or variation	Extremely low tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls are comprehensive, well designed and effective.	Low tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls are well designed and effective.	Limited uncertainty acceptable.  Controls are adequately designed and generally effective.	Some uncertainty accepted.  Controls may be incomplete or require strengthening.	High tolerance for uncertainty.  Controls may be absent, inadequately designed or ineffective. "Good enough" practice sufficient.
<b>Choice</b> Willingness to select an option puts objectives at risk	Will select the lowest-risk option.	Will accept risk only if essential and limited.	Will accept limited risk where clearly outweighed by benefits.	Will deliberately accept risk to achieve objectives, while actively managing impacts.	Will select options with the highest return, accepting the possibility of failure.
<b>Trade-off</b> Willingness to trade-off against achievement of other objectives	Will not accept trade-offs that compromise other objectives.	Will accept trade-offs only in exceptional circumstances and with extreme caution.	Prefers to avoid trade-offs but will consider them where impacts are limited and clearly understood.	Willing to make trade-offs under defined conditions to achieve priority objectives.	Willing to make trade-offs where doing so enables greater overall benefit or opportunity.

To assist, here is further information:

**Adverse (Lower Risk Appetite):** seeks to avoid risk. Characteristics include:

- Simplest, most controllable path preferred.
- Best practice (“gold-plated”) expected.
- Investments justified by mandatory or critical need.
- Trade-offs are rarely tolerated.
- High requirement for certainty, assurance, and oversight.

**Conservative (Moderately Low Appetite):** prefers safe, proven options, progressing only when risks are tightly controlled. Characteristics include:

- Preference for predictable and stable outcomes.
- Proven best practice is expected in higher impact areas.
- Limited tolerance for uncertain or innovative approaches.
- Benefits must clearly justify even small risks.
- Higher reliance on controls, monitoring, and oversight.
- Avoids activities with unclear mitigations.

**Measured (Moderate/Neutral Appetite):** comfortable proceeding as long as risks are well understood, well managed, and proportionate to benefits. Characteristics include:

- Risks and mitigations are identified and documented.
- Balanced decision-making (no extreme caution or boldness).
- Benefits and costs are relatively aligned.
- Controls are known and effective.
- Low tolerance for surprises but some uncertainty is acceptable.
- Trade-offs are considered where impacts are contained.

**Justified Risk Appetite (Moderately High Appetite):** prepared to take risk when the benefits clearly outweigh the drawbacks, and when mitigations—while not perfect—are reasonable enough. Characteristics include:

- Clear benefits supporting a case for taking the risk.
- Some uncertainty accepted and understood.
- Controls may be developing or strengthening.
- Trade-offs acceptable under defined conditions.
- Organisational capacity exists to respond if outcomes differ from expectations.
- Appropriate where innovation, transformation, or change is required.

**Open Risk Appetite (High Appetite):** willing to accept greater uncertainty and imperfect controls to pursue significant opportunity. Characteristics include:

- Significant opportunity exists.
- High levels of uncertainty anticipated.
- Controls may be evolving, flexible, or intentionally light.
- Outcomes may be variable and unpredictable.
- “Good enough” practices are acceptable.
- Trade-offs with other priorities are acceptable.

## 4. Application of Risk Appetite

HDC applies risk appetite across all activities to ensure alignment between risk exposure and Council's stated risk appetite.

Each risk is assessed based on:

- Inherent risk (before treatments and controls).
- Control effectiveness.
- Residual risk (after treatments and controls).
- Council's risk appetite.

Where residual risk aligns with risk appetite, HDC is considered to be operating within acceptable risk tolerance.

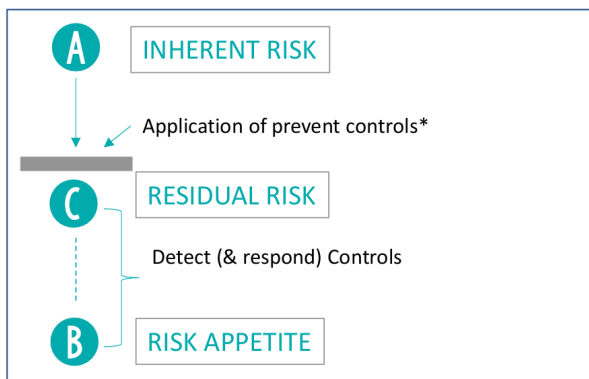


Scenario 1: risk appetite aligned with the residual risk level.

In some cases, residual risk may exceed Council's risk appetite.

Where residual risk exceeds Council's risk appetite, it must be escalated to the Risk and Assurance Committee for review and decision. Where this occurs, an interim risk target may be established, representing a planned pathway to reduce risk over time where practicable.

Where further risk reduction is not feasible, the Risk and Assurance Committee may explicitly accept the residual risk gap.



Scenario 2: Gap between Residual Risk level and Risk appetite.

## 5. HDC's Risk Appetite

The risk appetite has been set by Council and represents its agreed position on the level and type of risk it is willing to accept in pursuit of its objectives. It provides direction for decision-making and ensures consistent approaches to risk across the organisation.

## 6. Overall Risk Appetite Statement for HDC

### Risk appetite statement for HDC

Overall, HDC adopts a predominantly conservative risk appetite, with a strong emphasis on legal compliance, ethical governance, financial sustainability, and the protection of public trust. Council has a low tolerance for risks that could result in harm to people, service disruption, regulatory non-compliance, or loss of community confidence.

HDC operates in a complex environment requiring the balancing of service delivery, affordability, infrastructure resilience, and community outcomes. Within this context, Council will accept limited and well-managed risk where there is opportunity to achieve strategic objectives and deliver long-term value.

Council also recognises that embracing innovation can lead to opportunities, when controlled in a way that ensures risks are understood and managed.

## 7. Risk Appetite Table

Risk Source Category	Risk Appetite Level
Governance	Conservative
Legislative and Regulatory Compliance	Conservative
Legal	Conservative
Financial Risk - Organisation	Conservative
Financial Risk - Projects	Conservative
Fraud, Bribery and Corruption	Adverse
Reputational	Measured
Environmental	Measured
Climate Change	Measured
People - Health, Safety and Wellbeing	Adverse
Planning and Strategy	Justified
Relationships with Iwi	Measured
Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi	Measured
Service Delivery - Essential/Lifeline Services	Conservative (leaning Adverse)
Service Delivery - Non-Essential/Non-Lifeline Services	Justified
Information Services	Adverse

## 8. HDC's Risk Appetite Statements

### 8.1. Governance

<b>Risk appetite</b>	<b>Conservative</b>
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council is committed to lawful, ethical, and transparent decision-making in the best interests of its communities.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for governance and probity risk, particularly where there is potential for perceived or actual bias, conflicts of interest, or loss of public trust and confidence.</p> <p>Council expects robust, evidence-based advice with clear risks and mitigation, and requires governance processes to be consistent and above reproach.</p> <p>While efficiency is important, it will not outweigh the need for due diligence, integrity, and strong governance standards.</p>	

## 8.2. Legislative and Regulatory Compliance

Risk appetite	Conservative
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council is committed to meeting its legislative, regulatory, and contractual obligations and recognises that non-compliance can result in legal challenge, reputational damage, and loss of public trust.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for significant or deliberate non-compliance and expects to model best practice as a regulator.</p> <p>Where obligations are unclear or evolving, Council will take a cautious approach, supported by appropriate advice, documentation, and controls.</p>	

### 8.3. Legal

Risk appetite	Conservative
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council seeks to minimise exposure to legal risk, recognising that litigation and disputes can result in significant financial cost, operational disruption, and reputational damage.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for legal risk and expects decisions to be supported by robust processes and appropriate legal advice.</p> <p>While legal risk cannot always be avoided, Council will take a cautious and pragmatic approach to managing disputes, including considering early resolution where appropriate.</p> <p>Council will defend its position where justified, but will prioritise outcomes that are proportionate, defensible, and in the best interests of the community.</p>	

## 8.4. Financial – Organisation

Risk appetite	Conservative
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council is committed to long-term financial sustainability and recognises the need to live within its means while balancing affordability for current ratepayers and long-term community outcomes.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for financial risk that could compromise financial resilience, including unsustainable borrowing, persistent structural deficits, or deferral of essential investment.</p> <p>Council prioritises prudent financial management, ensuring core services and obligations are funded, and applies disciplined prioritisation and cost control across all expenditure.</p> <p>Limited financial risk may be considered where strongly justified, aligned to long-term sustainability, and presents a clear opportunity to enhance community outcomes.</p>	

## 8.5. Financial – Project

Risk appetite	Conservative
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council is committed to delivering projects in a financially disciplined manner, ensuring they provide clear value to the community and align with long-term financial sustainability.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for project-related financial risk that could result in cost overruns, increased debt, delays, or impacts on funding essential services.</p> <p>Council expects robust upfront planning, including whole-of-life cost assessment, clear scope, and appropriate contingencies, supported by strong project controls to ensure delivery on time and within budget.</p> <p>Where risks materialise, Council will take a cautious and pragmatic approach, including reviewing scope, redesigning, or deferring projects to maintain affordability.</p>	

## 8.6. Fraud, Bribery and Corruption

Risk appetite	Adverse
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council is committed to the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and accountability in the management of public funds and decision-making.</p> <p>Council has low tolerance for fraud, bribery, corruption, or unethical conduct, and will not accept any level of risk in this area.</p> <p>Council expects strong internal controls and safeguards, clear processes, and robust oversight to prevent, detect, and respond to any suspected wrongdoing.</p>	

## 8.7. Reputational

Risk appetite	Measured
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that its reputation and public trust are critical to its ability to operate effectively and serve its communities.</p> <p>Council has a moderate tolerance for reputational risk, particularly where it may impact public confidence, credibility, or perceptions of fairness and transparency.</p> <p>Council is committed to acting lawfully, consistently, and in the public interest, and will accept a measured level of reputational risk where decisions are justified, evidence-based, and aligned with policy.</p> <p>Council will actively manage reputational risk through clear communication, transparency, and fair and proportionate decision-making, ensuring its actions are well understood and defensible.</p>	

## 8.8. Environmental

Risk appetite	Measured
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises its responsibility to protect and enhance the natural environment while enabling the delivery of both essential infrastructure and community outcomes.</p> <p>Council has a moderate tolerance for environmental risk, particularly where impacts may be significant, irreversible, or affect long-term ecological sustainability.</p> <p>Council will seek to avoid, minimise, or mitigate adverse environmental effects through careful planning, design, and compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.</p> <p>Council will accept a measured level of environmental risk where impacts are well understood, proportionate, and appropriately managed, and where this supports broader community outcomes and long-term sustainability.</p>	

## 8.9. Climate Change

Risk appetite	Measured
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that climate-related hazards present increasing risks to essential services, and community wellbeing, particularly through extreme weather events and emergencies.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for risks that could compromise community resilience, emergency preparedness or essential services.</p> <p>Council prioritises practical, evidence-based, and financially responsible responses that strengthen resilience and emergency preparedness, aligned with statutory responsibilities and deliver tangible local benefit.</p> <p>Council will take a cautious and phased approach to resilience and emergency preparedness initiatives, ensuring actions are proportionate, affordable, achievable, and provide clear benefit without unduly diverting resources from essential services.</p>	

## 8.10. People – Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Risk appetite	Adverse
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that the health, safety, and wellbeing of its people - including employees, contractors, elected members, and the public - is a critical priority and underpins all Council activities.</p> <p>Council has a very low tolerance for risks that could result in injury, illness, or harm, particularly where consequences may be serious or long-lasting.</p> <p>Council will prioritise the elimination or minimisation of health and safety risks so far as reasonably practicable and will not knowingly accept risks where there is a credible likelihood of harm. The protection of people will take precedence over cost, convenience, or delivery timeframes.</p> <p>Council will ensure that appropriate training, resources, and controls are in place, with a focus on identifying and managing critical risks and maintaining safe systems of work.</p> <p>While recognising that some operational risk is inherent in Council activities, Council will take a practical and proportionate approach, focusing on risks that are significant and material, and avoiding unnecessary administrative burden that does not improve safety outcomes.</p> <p>Council also recognises the importance of holistic wellbeing and will support environments that promote physical and psychological safety, and respectful workplaces free from bullying and harm.</p>	

## 8.11. Planning and Strategy

Risk appetite	Justified
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises the importance of effective planning and strategy in setting clear direction, enabling long-term community outcomes, and maintaining public confidence.</p> <p>Council has a moderately high tolerance for strategic and planning risk, acknowledging that uncertainty is inherent in long-term planning, particularly in the context of evolving legislation, external influences, and changing community needs.</p> <p>Council will prioritise robust, evidence-based planning that is informed by a wide range of perspectives, including community, environmental, cultural, and economic considerations, and supported by high-quality analysis and advice.</p> <p>Council will take a balanced, forward-looking approach that enables progress and timely decision-making, while retaining the flexibility to adapt plans and strategies where there is a justified need, such as in response to new information, regulatory change, or shifting community expectations.</p> <p>Council will accept a justified level of risk to support progress, innovation, and long-term outcomes, while ensuring plans remain relevant, credible, and aligned with statutory responsibilities and community priorities.</p>	

## 8.12. Relationship with Iwi

Risk appetite	Measured
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises the importance of strong, effective relationships with iwi and hapū as Treaty partners, and the value these relationships bring to decision-making, community outcomes, and statutory responsibilities.</p> <p>Council has a low to moderate tolerance for risk in iwi relationships, and seeks to ensure engagement is meaningful, timely, and conducted in good faith, while maintaining its role as decision-maker for the wider community.</p> <p>Council will take a balanced and proportionate approach to engagement with iwi, ensuring that statutory obligations, cultural considerations, and partnership expectations are appropriately considered alongside the needs of all ratepayers.</p> <p>Council may accept delays or additional process where engagement delivers clear benefit or is required to uphold legal or Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi responsibilities, but will ensure decisions remain evidence-based, transparent, and aligned with its broader responsibilities.</p>	

### 8.13. Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi

Risk appetite	Measured
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises the importance of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi and its principles in guiding good governance, decision-making, and relationships with Māori.</p> <p>Council has a moderate tolerance for risk in the application of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi obligations, seeking to ensure obligations are met in a manner that is legally grounded, transparent, and appropriately balanced with Council's responsibilities to the wider community.</p> <p>Council will take a careful and proportionate approach to considering Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi obligations, ensuring they are applied consistently and in accordance with statutory requirements, while maintaining clear decision-making responsibility and operational practicality.</p> <p>Council will engage in good faith with Māori where appropriate and relevant, recognising the importance of constructive relationships, while ensuring expectations are clearly defined and decisions remain evidence-based, lawful, and defensible.</p>	

## 8.14. Service Delivery – Essential/Lifelines Services

Risk appetite	Conservative
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that essential and lifeline services, including drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, roading, and emergency-related infrastructure, are fundamental to public health, safety, wellbeing, and community trust.</p> <p>Council has a moderately low tolerance for risk in the delivery of these services, particularly where service failure could result in harm to people, environmental damage, regulatory non-compliance, or loss of public confidence.</p> <p>Council will prioritise the reliability, continuity, and resilience of essential services, ensuring that statutory obligations are met and that critical infrastructure is appropriately maintained, upgraded, and managed over time.</p> <p>Council will seek to ensure that risks to service continuity are identified, understood, and actively managed, with investment and operational decisions reflecting the critical nature of these services. Where disruption is necessary to achieve improved long-term resilience or outcomes, it will be carefully planned, justified, and clearly communicated to the community.</p> <p>While Council may accept limited and managed disruption in defined circumstances, the overriding expectation is that essential services remain reliable, safe, and compliant at all times.</p>	

## 8.15. Service Delivery – Non-Essential/Non-Lifelines Services

Risk appetite	Justified
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that non-essential and discretionary services contribute to community wellbeing and amenity, but are not fundamental to public health, safety, or statutory lifeline responsibilities.</p> <p>Council has a moderate to moderately high tolerance for risk in the delivery of these services, reflecting the need to prioritise core and essential services and make trade-offs where resources are constrained.</p> <p>Council will take a flexible and pragmatic approach to the planning and delivery of non-essential services, including the ability to phase, defer, or adjust service levels where this supports affordability, capacity, and alignment with broader organisational priorities.</p> <p>Council accepts that service levels in non-essential areas may vary over time and may not always meet all community expectations. Decisions will be based on evidence, value for money, and long-term considerations, and will be clearly communicated.</p> <p>Council will seek to ensure that assets and services are maintained at appropriate levels, while allowing for variability in timing and investment where this is proportionate and justified.</p>	

## 8.16. Information Services

Risk appetite	Adverse
<b>Risk appetite statement</b>	
<p>Council recognises that information services—including data, systems, and technology—are critical to service delivery, decision-making, organisational resilience, and maintaining public trust and confidence.</p> <p>Council has a very low tolerance for risks associated with information services, particularly where there is potential for data breaches, cyber security incidents, system failure, or loss of sensitive information.</p> <p>Council will prioritise the protection, security, and integrity of its information systems and data, and will not knowingly accept risks where there is a credible likelihood of harm to individuals, service delivery, or public trust.</p> <p>Council will ensure that appropriate controls, safeguards, and capabilities are in place to manage risks effectively, with a strong focus on maintaining reliable and secure systems.</p> <p>Council also recognises that innovation can create opportunities and drive improvements. The effective use of technology is essential to improving services, accessibility, and efficiency for the community.</p> <p>Council supports and enables innovation, including through phased or controlled approaches where appropriate, to deliver better outcomes for the community. While ensuring any changes are undertaken in a structured and controlled way to ensure risks are understood, managed and does not compromise data protection, systems reliability, or public confidence.</p>	

## Appendix A: Consequences and Impacts Examples

This table is intended as a guide to support risk assessment. It is not exhaustive or prescriptive and should not be applied mechanically. Professional judgement and relevant experience must be used when interpreting and applying the consequences described.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>High level rating definitions</b>	Managing through routine processes, unlikely to require specific application of resources.	Event with consequences which can be readily absorbed, but which require management effort to minimise the impact.	Significant event which can be managed under normal circumstances.	Critical event which can be endured with proper management.	Disaster with potential to lead to business failure.
<b>Governance</b>	Little or no impact on decision making and governance of Council.	Isolated impact on decision making and governance that could be managed through existing delegations.	Noticeable impact on decision making and governance causing significant delays or negative impact on community confidence.	Significant impact on decision making and governance causing significant breakdown of governance functions resulting in external scrutiny.	Severe loss of decision making and governance that requires intervention by central government.
<b>Legislative and regulatory compliance</b>	Insignificant non-compliance with little or no impact.	Isolated non-compliance able to be managed internally without serious loss.	Serious non-compliance with impact on reputation and requiring escalation to manage.	Significant non-compliance with impact on reputation requiring external assistance and possible regulator intervention.	Significant non-compliance which requires regulatory notification / intervention and/or legal action.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Legal</b>	Minor legal issue or irregularity with negligible financial or reputational impact. Managed internally without formal advice.	Low-level legal exposure, requiring limited legal advice or correspondence to resolve. No formal dispute or claim.	Noticeable legal issue requiring formal legal advice, negotiation, or settlement. Possible minor legal claim or contractual dispute with limited financial or reputational impact.	Serious legal exposure resulting in formal legal proceedings or regulatory investigation. Potential for substantial legal costs, settlement, or enforceable order.	Major legal action or prosecution resulting in court judgment, significant penalties, or enforceable undertakings. Could lead to serious financial loss, criminal liability, or governance intervention.
<b>Financial - organisation</b>	Loss or overrun of less than \$100k.	Loss or overrun between \$100-250k.	Loss or overrun between \$250-500k.	Loss or overrun between \$500k-\$1m.	Loss or overrun over \$1m.
<b>Financial - project</b>	1% project or programme budget overrun.	2-5% project or programme budget overrun.	5-10% project or programme budget overrun.	10-30% project or programme budget overrun.	More than 30% project or programme budget overrun.
<b>Fraud, bribery and corruption</b>	Near miss incident of fraud, bribery or corruption without financial or reputational damage.	Fraud, bribery or corruption incident identified and managed internally without serious loss.	Serious loss due to fraud, bribery or corruption impacting on reputation and in local media, requiring external assistance.	Significant loss due to fraud, bribery or corruption with regional media attention and requiring external assistance.	Extensive loss due to fraud, bribery or corruption resulting in national media coverage or regulatory intervention.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Reputational</b>	No impact on public confidence or media attention.	Minor impact on public confidence and media attention. May be some local coverage – not front page.	Some impact on public confidence, reflected by community interest in the Council's performance and local media coverage – front-page.	Major impact on public confidence resulting in some national coverage.	Critical impact on public confidence, resulting in significant national media and Central Government attention e.g. through an inquiry and/or appointment of a Commissioner.
<b>Environmental</b>	Little or no impact.	Short-term or minor impact.	Serious damage of local importance with possible regulatory intervention.	Serious damage of regional importance with possible regulatory intervention.	Permanent damage requiring ongoing remediation and monitoring with regulatory involvement.
<b>Climate Change</b>	Little or no impact on community plans for climate change.	Localised impact on community plans for climate change.	Some serious or long-term impact on community plans for climate change.	Significant impact on community plans for climate change.	Extensive or catastrophic impacts on community plans for climate change.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>People - Health, Safety and Wellbeing</b>	No injury or illness. Minimal discomfort only. No first aid required. No impact on wellbeing or work performance.	Minor injury or short-term discomfort requiring basic first aid only. No lost time from work. Temporary impact on wellbeing with full recovery.	Injury or illness requiring medical treatment. Short-term absence from work or modified duties. Noticeable impact on physical or psychological wellbeing, but recovery expected.	Serious injury or illness resulting in hospitalisation, long-term absence, or permanent partial impairment. Significant psychological harm or ongoing wellbeing impacts requiring professional support.	Fatality or life-altering injury or illness. Permanent disability or catastrophic psychological harm. Multiple people affected or systemic failure in health and safety controls.
<b>Planning and strategy</b> - including changes in Central Government policy	No impact on outcomes.	Temporary impact on long-term levels of service.  Limited community interest and media attention.	Noticeable impact on long-term levels of service, bringing consistently below expectations in one or more outcome categories.  Negative community interest and media attention.	Levels of service are significantly below expectations in one or more outcomes categories.  Significant negative community interest and media attention.	Levels of service in significant decline across all outcome categories.  Widespread negative commentary and media attention.  Central Government attention, e.g. through an inquiry and/or appointment of a Commissioner.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Relationships with Iwi</b>	Minor or isolated issue causing little or no impact on iwi relationships. Engagement is maintained through normal channels.	Localised issue or misunderstanding causing short-term strain on iwi relationships. Easily resolved through direct engagement.	Noticeable impact on iwi relationships resulting in reduced participation or trust. Formal engagement required to repair relationship.	Serious breakdown in relationship with one or more iwi, resulting in loss of partnership confidence, formal complaints, or public criticism. Requires senior leadership or governance involvement to restore trust.	Severe and sustained breakdown in iwi relationships leading to loss of partnership, withdrawal from engagement, public conflict, or central government intervention. May impact strategic objectives and Council reputation.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi</b>	Minor administrative oversight with no material breach of requirements under Local Government Act in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi principles or statutory obligations. Easily corrected.	Isolated instance of non-compliance requirements under Local Government Act in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi. Minor reputational or relationship impact; resolved through standard processes.	Noticeable failure to give effect to requirements under Local Government Act in relation to Tiriti/Treaty in key decisions or planning processes. May require external advice or mediation to address.	Significant or repeated failure to meet requirements under Local Government Act in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi, resulting in formal complaint, public criticism, or intervention by iwi, government agencies, or oversight bodies. Substantial reputational impact.	Systemic or deliberate non-compliance with requirement under Local Government Act in relation to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi principles or statutory obligations. Could result in legal challenge, formal investigation, loss of central government confidence, or appointment of a Commissioner. Major reputational and governance consequences.
<b>Service delivery - essential/lifeline services</b>	Loss of service to 0-10 households for a period of no more than 8 hours.  Loss of service to an industry for a period of no more than 8 hours.	Loss of service to 10-30 households for a period of 8-24 hours.  Loss of service to an industry for a period of 8 hours.	Loss of service to 30-100 households for a period of 24 hours.  Loss of service to an industry for a period of 8-24 hours.	Loss of service to 100-300 households for a period of 24-72 hours.  Loss of service to an industry for a period of 24-72 hours.	Loss of service to 300+ households for a period of more than 3 days.  Loss of service to an industry for a period of more than 3 days.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Service delivery - non-essential/non-life-line services</b>	Public amenity closed or delivering reduced services.	Public amenity closed for up to a week or more.  Isolated service standard failure.	Public amenity closed for 1 week to 1 month or more.  Customer complaints or complaints relating to more than one business area.  Repeated service failure or one that affects multiple people.	Public amenity closed for more than 1 month or more.  Delay in major project of over a year.	Long term loss of public amenity.  Long term loss of community well-being  Long term delay in major project of over a year.

Source of Risk	Consequence				
	Insignificant - 1	Minor - 2	Moderate - 3	Serious - 4	Severe - 5
<b>Information services</b>	<p>Key information systems disrupted for a period of 2 hours.</p> <p>Isolated equipment failure</p>	<p>Key information systems disrupted for a period of 2 hours to 1 day.</p> <p>Minor breach of information security and information loss. Fixed within hours.</p> <p>Compromise of user password or information management processes impacting the confidentiality and integrity of data.</p>	<p>Key information systems disrupted for a period of 2-3 days.</p> <p>Loss of all information systems for a period of 1 hour to 1 day.</p> <p>Exploitation of security flaws compromising the confidentiality and integrity of data.</p>	<p>Key information systems disrupted for a period of 4 days to 1 week.</p> <p>Loss of all information systems for a period of more than 1 day.</p> <p>Theft, loss or misuse of USB/laptop/other device compromising confidentiality.</p> <p>Loss of a core system for an extended period.</p>	<p>Key information systems disrupted for a period of more than 1 week.</p> <p>Loss of infrastructure for an extended period.</p> <p>Loss of all historical information (backups).</p> <p>Widespread unauthorised entry into information systems.</p>





File No.: 26/319

## 6.4 Continuation of the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment

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### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to summarise the submissions received during consultation on continuing the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment and present the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 to Council for adoption.

#### **This matter relates to Delivering everyday**

While navigating a period of significant change, we will continue to deliver our services to our community effectively, efficiently, and reliably, maintaining strong business-as-usual performance as we implement our Council priorities.

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

2. Under the Local Government Act 2002, Council has the authority to make, amend, or revoke bylaws made under this Act.
3. 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

4. This matter is assessed as not significant as it does not relate to Council's strategic assets or propose to significantly alter the level of service provided by the Council of a significant activity.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council receive the four submissions made on the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw in Attachment B.
- B. That Council notes the oral submissions made in support of the written submissions.
- C. That Council resolve to continue the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment, attached as Attachment A as an operative bylaw of Council effective 1 July 2026; and in doing so determines that:
  - C.1. A bylaw is still the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problems of regulating Solid Waste services; and

- C.2. That the proposed bylaw is the most appropriate form of bylaw and does not give rise to implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
- D. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive to make minor editorial amendments (if required) prior to publication.

## BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

### Earlier Steps in the Bylaw Review

5. Council adopted the Solid Waste Bylaw 2014 on 2 July 2014. Review of this bylaw was required within ten years of this date to ensure that the requirements under the Local Government Act were met. The Solid Waste Bylaw 2014 will lapse on 2 July 2026 if council has not adopted or continued the bylaw.
6. At the Council Meeting on 12 June 2024, Council confirmed the completion of the statutory review of the Solid Waste Bylaw 2014. In doing so, Council determined that a bylaw remained the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problems of regulating solid waste, and that the current bylaws are the most appropriate form of bylaw and do not give rise to implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. Further details available via the following link: [Agenda of Council - Wednesday, 29 April 2026](#)
7. On 29 April 2026, Council agreed that a bylaw continues to be the most appropriate way of addressing Solid Waste matters and directed Council Officers to undertake limited consultation on continuing the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment. Further details are available via the following link: [Agenda of Council - Wednesday, 29 April 2026](#)
8. Council Officers have held a number of workshops with Elected Members, the latest of which was held on 25 March 2026, on the possible options for a future operating model which is likely to impact the requirements of the bylaw. While the public were excluded from these workshops, any changes that may be required to either the bylaw or levels of service will be consulted on as part of future community engagement processes.
9. Since that meeting Council has identified Recycling and Waste Minimisation as one of three areas to undertake a 'deep dive' into through the Long Term Plan. Council has recently held a Community Conversation as part of the Future Fit: Head Start/ Long Term Plan discussion. This included asking "*What should Council consider if making changes to property, recycling and waste minimisation, and community facilities and services?*".

### Community Consultation

10. The consultation endorsed by Council and subsequently undertaken, met the requirements in sections 160 and 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.
11. Submissions opened on 4 May 2026 and closed on 29 May 2026. Consultation information was made available on Council's Let's Korero website, at Council Service Centres and via social media. Community members were encouraged to make a submission in two editions of Community Connection. Solid Waste licence holders were also directly contacted by Council Officers to ensure they were aware of the consultation and to ensure they had an opportunity to make a submission.
12. Council's Let's Korero website had 101 views, 109 downloads of the draft Bylaw and 4 people going on to make a submission. This indicates that the messaging was clear that Council was seeking to roll the bylaw over with a full review in the near future, meaning there were not new matters to comment on now.

## DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

13. Four submissions about the proposed continuation of the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment were received. Two supported, one partially supported, and one did not state whether it supported the continuation of the proposed Bylaw.

**General Feedback**

14. All four submissions provided general feedback on the proposed continuation of the Solid Waste Bylaw which is summarised below.

15. Feedback related to:

- clarity being sought regarding one of the specific clauses in relation to the application of the clause in relation to the company’s specific circumstances.

*Officer Comment: Officers have responded directly to the submitter to answer their query.*

- That it makes sense to wait until the appropriate process to consider options next year.
- That the draft bylaw as written is not appropriate for a modern territorial authority. However, there is support for rolling this existing bylaw over to enable time to develop a more appropriate bylaw. The submitter requested that Council immediately commence consulting on what a more appropriate bylaw should look like.

*Officer Comment: Council has indicated that recycling and waste minimisation will be considered through the development of the Long Term Plan 2027. Early engagement on this topic is underway. The bylaw is anticipated to be updated following confirmation of any changes agreed through the Long Term Plan.*

- The submitter commented on the monitoring and regulation of tanker and trade waste, and the relationship with hazardous waste and prohibited waste.

*Officer Comment: Trade Waste including the transport of liquid wastes to the wastewater treatment plant is regulated under the Local Waters Combined Bylaw 2025. There are no operating landfills within the Horowhenua District at the current time, therefore any waste (liquid or otherwise) would not be disposed of within the district at any premises controlled by Council unless covered by Trade Waste regulations and transported to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.*

16. Recommendation: That Council continue the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment. That any spelling mistakes be fixed and other minor editorial amendments be made - including updating the date to the Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 and updating the general formatting of the document.

17. Feedback from submitters will be considered, and incorporated if appropriate, during the review and drafting of the next iteration of the Solid Waste Bylaw following confirmation of direction and priorities through Long Term Plan 2027.

**Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa**

18. Council is only able to amend the Proposed Bylaw following formal consultation in response to feedback if it falls within the scope of changes proposed. As no changes were proposed, any material changes would require further public consultation to ensure compliance with consultation requirements.

19. There are two options considered in the table below. This report recommends that Council proceed with Option A, to continue the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment to allow for a new bylaw to be developed in line with new ways of operating.

Options   Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits   Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks   Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) That Council resolves to continue the Solid Waste Bylaw without amendment (as consulted on).	The current bylaw is fit for purpose for the current Solid Waste operating model. The bylaw is able to be reviewed and amended at any point in the future. This review	Council Officers are aware of amendments to the bylaw that are needed to support operational activities and ensure that the bylaw continues to meet the

<p>This would mean the Solid Waste Bylaw is operative until July 2036 unless reviewed and amended or revoked earlier.</p>	<p>would be able to occur after the solid waste operating model is finalized. The community consultation activities enable this option to occur.</p>	<p>community's needs in the future. However, changes to the bylaw need to be made in conjunction with any operational changes that are being considered currently to avoid duplication within a short time. Once any operational changes are made/confirmed following community consultation then the bylaw will need to be reviewed and updated to support these changes.</p>
<p>Option B (status quo) Allow the current bylaw to lapse following 2 July 2026 by taking no action.</p>		<p>The Solid Waste Bylaw would not be able to be enforced if it lapses. Therefore, the following would not be able to be completed as effectively or at all:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monitor and regulate the collection, transportation, disposal, and management of waste.</li> <li>- Impose specific performance standards and requirements for waste collection.</li> <li>- Licensing of operators.</li> <li>- Illegal dumping.</li> <li>- Recycling contamination.</li> </ul>
<p>Option C (not recommended) Resolve to undertake a full review of the Solid Waste Bylaw now</p>	<p>Would ensure that any recommended changes would be included, although these are unlikely to be significant changes in relation to what the bylaw practically regulates</p>	<p>A full review would not be completed by 2 July, meaning the current Bylaw would lapse and there be no Solid Waste Bylaw for the district until this new bylaw is adopted. As above, Council is currently developing the LTP 2027 and undertaking a deep dive into Recycling and Waste Minimisation, which may have impacts for the Bylaw, requiring a further review. Undertaking a full review of the bylaw ahead of LTP decisions would not be an effective or efficient use of resources.</p>

## **LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA**

### **Decision Making**

20. The Bylaw is made using bylaw-making powers from the Local Government Act 2002.
21. Unless transferred to another Territorial Authority or our Regional Council, the decision-making authority for bylaws sits with Council and cannot be delegated to a Committee of Council or other body (section 161 of the Local Government Act 2002).
22. While deliberating, Council should keep in mind that the Council's decision-making powers and the scope of the consultation materials. Significant changes from the original proposal may require further consultation.
23. There is no legislative requirement to have a Solid Waste Bylaw, however, the Local Government Act 2002 enables Councils to implement and enforce Bylaws for the purpose of regulating waste management and solid wastes (section 146(1) of the Local Government Act 2002). This in turn contributes to public health and safety. Without a Bylaw in place Horowhenua District Council would be unable to enforce the regulations in the Bylaw.

### **Addressing Issues and Compliance with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990**

24. Council is required under the Local Government Act 2002 to resolve that bylaws are the most appropriate way of addressing particular issues. This process of review required by section 155 of the Local Government Act consists of the following two stages:
  - Section 155(1) requires Council to determine whether a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem.
  - Section 155(2) and (3) requires Council to consider whether the form of the bylaw is appropriate; and whether any aspect is in conflict with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
25. The Bill of Rights protects the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all people in New Zealand.
26. Consideration of whether there are any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights is only able to be confirmed once the final version of the Bylaw has been developed.
27. Council Officers do not consider that continuing the current Bylaw without amendment will give rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights.

### **Other Legislation and Requirements**

28. Solid Waste and Waste Management are regulated through a number of different mechanisms including, but not limited to, the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 and the Litter Act 1979, and Health Act 1956. If there are any discrepancies between any legislation or plans and the Bylaw, the Legislation or Plan takes precedence.

## **COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI**

29. If the Solid Waste Bylaw is continued without amendment, communication of this decision will need to be advertised through public notice; and
30. If continued without amendment, the Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 will need to be published on Council's website under Bylaws and Policies.

## **NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI**

31. If continued without amendment, public notice will need to be given on the Bylaw, as well as Council's website and publication will need to be updated to refer to the Solid Waste Bylaw 2026.

### **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**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">A</a>	Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026	75
<a href="#">B</a>	Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 Submissions - redacted	88



# Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026



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## 1. Citation, Commencement, Application

- 1.1 This Bylaw is the Horowhenua District **Council Solid Waste** Bylaw 2026
- 1.2 This Bylaw came into force on [insert date adopted]
- 1.3 This Bylaw is made pursuant to section 145 and 146 of the Local Government Act 2002, section 56 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, section 12 of the Litter Act 1979 and sections 64(1) and 65 of the Health Act 1956 and any other Act or Authority enabling the Council in that behalf.

## 2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of this Bylaw are:
  - a) To monitor and regulate the collection, transportation, disposal and management of waste in such a way as to encourage minimisation of waste being generated and disposed of in Horowhenua District.
  - b) To promote Council's waste minimisation and waste reduction objectives.
  - c) To assist in the implementation of Council's Waste Management Plan and the New Zealand Waste Strategy.
  - d) To ensure effective and efficient waste management in the Council's area.
  - e) To impose specific performance standards and requirements for waste collection, transportation, disposal and treatment services for the benefit of the public.

## 3. Interpretation

- 3.1 In this Bylaw a reference to a repealed document should be read as a reference to its replacement.
- 3.2 In this Bylaw, unless inconsistent with the context, the following definitions apply:
  - "Approved Receptacle"** means both single use and reusable receptacles as follows:
    - a) Single use official Council bags;
    - b) reusable kerbside recyclables bins (approved by Council and provided by a Licensed Waste Collector);
    - c) public litter bins and public Recyclable Waste Collection Bins approved and provided by Council;
    - d) reusable mobile bins (including wheelie bins) approved by Council and provided by Licensed Waste Collectors;
    - e) any reusable receptacle provided by a Licensed Waste Collector and approved by Council to be fit for the purpose of collection of any type of Waste; and
    - f) any other receptacle, reusable or single use, that has been approved by Council for the purposes of this bylaw.

**“Council”** means Horowhenua District Council and includes all Council officers authorised to act on Council’s behalf.

**“Deposit”** means in relation to Waste to:

- a) cast, place, throw or drop; and
- b) to cause or permit waste or other material or thing to be cast, placed, thrown or dropped.

**“Hazardous Waste”** means any waste that:

- a) contains hazardous substances at sufficient concentrations to exceed the minimum degrees of hazard specified by Hazardous Substances (Minimum Degrees of Hazard) Regulations 2000 under the Hazardous Substances and New Organism Act 1996, or
- b) meets the definition for infectious substances included in the Land Transport Rule: Dangerous Goods 1999 and NZ Standard 5433: 1999 – Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land; or
- c) meets the definition for radioactive material included in the Radiation Protection Act 1965 and Regulations 1982; or
- d) is publicly notified by the Council from time to time to be hazardous and to require special handling for the purposes of collection transportation or disposal.

**“Household Waste”** means Solid Waste resulting from domestic housekeeping operations and includes compostable garden waste and waste of a domestic nature emanating from commercial premises but, for the avoidance of doubt, excludes Hazardous Waste, Trade Waste, Prohibited Waste, and Inorganic Waste.

**“Inorganic Waste”** means Solid Waste resulting from domestic housekeeping operations that will not fit within an Approved Receptacle. However, if the Council so decides for a particular collection, Inorganic Waste may include polystyrene, builder’s waste or Prohibited Waste of a particular class.

**“Kerbside Recyclable Waste”** means a type or group of types of Recyclable Waste that the Council resolves to collect from Waste Collection Areas.

**“Licence”** means a licence granted by Council under this bylaw.

**“Licensed Waste Collector”** means a person who has a Licence to collect, transport or dispose of waste.

**“Licensed Waste Operator”** means a person which has a Licence to operate a Waste Management Facility.

**"Litter"** includes refuse, rubbish, animal remains, glass, metal, garbage, plastic, debris, dirt, filth, rubble, ballast, stones, earth, or waste matter, or any other thing of a like nature.

**"Litter Control Officer"** means any person appointed under section 5 or deemed to have been appointed under section 6, of the Litter Act 1979 as a litter control officer.

**"Occupier"** means any person who occupies any Property and, if the Property is unoccupied, means the owner.

**"Person"** means a natural person, corporation sole, a body corporate, or an unincorporated body.

**"Prohibited Waste"** means:

- a) any broken glass, broken china, broken plastic, hacksaw blade, razor blade, skewer, syringe, knife or any other object or material capable by reason of its shape or sharpness of causing injury unless any such waste is properly and sufficiently contained so as to prevent injury damage or loss;
- b) any sharp object or material capable of puncturing the Approved Receptacle or capable by reason of its brittleness of shattering in the course of collection; unless such waste is properly and sufficiently wrapped or contained so as to prevent injury damage or loss;
- c) any explosive, hot ashes, flammable material, infectious material, or any other matter, thing or waste of any kind whatsoever that may endanger any person, animal or vehicle which may come into contact with it at any time prior to during, or following collection, before or during collection, or during or after disposal;
- d) any liquid or any viscous fluid;
- e) any radioactive waste, but excluding domestic smoke detectors;
- f) any used oil, lead-acid batteries, refrigerators and/or freezers that have not been degassed;
- g) any Hazardous Waste.

**"Property"** means

- a) A property or allotment which is held under a separate certificate of title; or
- b) A building or part of a building that has been defined as an individual unit by a cross-lease, unit title or company lease and for which a certificate of title is available;  
or
- c) A separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit as defined in the Council Funding Impact Statement.

**"Publicly notified"** means a notice published in one or more newspaper circulating in the Horowhenua district to which the notice relates.

**"Recyclable Waste"** means any rags, second hand or used clothing, textiles, wood, concrete, steel, paper, steel cans, tin cans, aluminum cans, glass, plastic products including plastic containers and other items publicly notified by the Council from time to time.

**"Solid Waste"** means any Waste generated as a solid or converted to a solid for disposal.

**"Special Event"** means any short-term activity likely to be attended by more than 30 persons, and includes any event such as a gala, a sports event, a festival, a market, or outdoor music event.

**"Trade Waste"** means any sewage or any liquid, with or without matters in suspension or solution, produced in the course of any trade or industrial process.

**"Transfer Station"** means land or buildings to which waste is delivered for sorting or consolidation before being taken away for treatment, processing, recycling or disposal.

**"Trolley"** means any movable receptacle on wheels and includes a shopping trolley.

**"Waste"** means anything that is deposited, disposed of, discarded, discharged, or selected for disposal and includes;

- a) a type of waste that is defined by its composition or source (for example, Household Waste, or Recyclable Waste)
- b) an object which has been abandoned;
- c) Litter;
- d) to avoid doubt, includes a component or element of diverted material, if the component or element is disposed of or discarded.

**"Waste Collection Area"** means the area on the road reserve outside the Property from which the Waste originates.

**"Waste Management Facilities"** means facilities where Waste is managed and includes, but is not limited to, Landfill sites, Transfer Stations, tips, recycling centres, transfer points, waste pads, transportation points, cleanfill sites, composting facilities or waste consolidation points.

*Explanatory Note: Explanatory notes are used to explain the intent of a clause in less formal language and/or to include additional helpful information.*

A8.3 In this Bylaw, unless context otherwise requires:

## 4. Accumulation of Waste

- 4.1 No occupier of a property shall permit or suffer any accumulation of any type of Waste in, on, or about that property, to be or become unsightly, offensive, a nuisance or likely to be injurious to health.

## **5. Approved Receptacle**

- 5.1 Occupiers shall keep reusable Approved Receptacles clean and in good repair, covered at all times, with close-fitting lid where provided, and the contents from rain or ingress or egress of flies and vermin.

## **6. Requirements for Collection of Waste**

- 6.1 No person shall put out Waste for collection other than in an Approved Receptacle and Waste shall be sorted as follows:
- a) No waste shall be placed in a kerbside recyclables bin other than kerbside recyclable waste
  - b) No waste should be placed in any other Approved Receptacle other than Household Waste. For the avoidance of doubt, no person shall place Prohibited Waste in an Approved Receptacle for collection.
- 6.2 No person shall place for Collection more than a maximum number of Approved Receptacles where such a maximum has been determined by the Council and publicly notified.
- 6.3 No person shall overload an Approved Receptacle
- 6.4 No person shall obstruct or hinder any Licenced Waste Collector from removing waste from any Waste Collection Area in accordance with a Licence under this bylaw
- 6.5 No person, other than the occupier of the Property from which the Waste has generated shall remove Waste from a Waste Collection Area or from a Property, unless Licenced to do so.

## **7. Placement of Approved Receptacles for Collection**

- 7.1 No person shall put out an Approved Receptacle for collection other than:
- a) In accordance with the contract between the occupier and a Licenced Waste Collector
  - b) No earlier than noon on the day before a collection day specified by the Council; or
  - c) Before 7:30 AM on the day a collection day specified by the Council

**NOTE:** The Council may change days for collection at its discretion (see the Council's website for current Collection Maps) or approve other times for the placement and removal of Approved Receptacles where out of hours collection is preferred in a specific location

- 6.2 Occupiers shall only place Approved Receptacles for collection within the Waste Collection Area and they shall be placed as close to the kerb as possible but clear of private driveways, car parking areas and placed in such a way to ensure the receptacle does not unduly interfere with the free passage of pedestrians.
- 6.3 Occupiers shall place Approved Receptacles for collection in an upright, stable position with the contents secured.
- 6.4 Occupiers shall only place Waste in Reusable Approved Receptacles in a manner that allows authorised collectors to lift out easily and cleanly when the receptacle is emptied.
- 6.5 During collection, the Licensed Waste Collector, or its employees or agents, shall pick up any Waste spilled from Approved Receptacles and deposit it into the collection vehicle.
- 6.6 The Licensed Waste Collector, or its employees or agents, shall return Approved Receptacles to the Waste Collection Area but clear of private driveways, car parking areas and placed in such a way to ensure the receptacles do not unduly interfere with the free passage of pedestrians.
- 6.7 Removal
  - a) Occupiers shall remove Approved Receptacles, whether full or empty, from the Waste Collection Area before the expiry of the day for collection unless otherwise directed by Council.
  - b) Where an Occupier fails to remove Approved Receptacles or any Waste left in the Waste Collection Area in accordance with clause 7.7(a) the Council may remove the Receptacles and recover from the Occupier, the cost of collection and disposal.

## **8. Inorganic Waste Collection**

- 8.1 The Council or a Licensed Waste Collector may arrange with an Occupier to collect Inorganic Waste.
- 8.2 A Inorganic Waste Collector must not collect, transport or dispose of Inorganic Waste unless the Collector does so in accordance with the terms of its Licence.
- 8.3 Inorganic Waste shall not be placed for collection in a public place, including a Waste Collection Area, unless authorised by Council.
- 8.4 If Inorganic Waste is collected from a Waste Collection Area, the Occupier must comply with clause 7 of this Bylaw.
- 8.5 Any Waste or debris left in the Waste Collection Area after collection must be promptly removed by the Occupier to prevent it becoming a nuisance.

## **9. Depositing Waste, Trolleys and Receptacles in a Public Place**

- 9.1 No person shall Deposit, or permit, or suffer the Depositing of, any Waste, Trolley, Approved Receptacle or Litter in a Public Place, including a Waste Collection Area, other than in a manner provided for by this Bylaw.
- 9.2 No person shall permit, or suffer the escape of any Waste, Trolley, or Receptacle from private property into, or onto any public place.

## **10. Removal of Trolleys and Receptacles found on Public Land**

- 10.1 In any case where a Trolley or receptacle has been found in a Public Place, including a waterway or channel, the Council may give notice to the owner to remove that Trolley or Receptacle within a stated timeframe.
- 10.2 Any person who receives notice under clause 10.1 shall comply with the Council's requirements.

**NOTE:** Council may remove, impound and dispose of any Trolley or receptacle found in a Public Place in accordance with sections 164, 165 and 168 of the Local Government Act 2002 or section 81, 84 and 85 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008.

## **11. Public Litter Bins and Public Recyclable Waste Collection Bins**

- 11.1 No person shall:
- a) Deposit any sort of Waste other than Litter in any public litter bin;
  - b) Deposit any sort of Waste other than Recyclable Waste in any public Recyclable Waste collection bins, and further, where that bin is identified as being only for the collection of specific type of Recyclable Waste (for example glass, or plastic), no person shall place any other type of Recyclable Waste in that bin.
  - c) Deposit or attempt to deposit any waste into a public litter bin or Recyclable Waste Collection bin if the bin is already full; or
  - d) Remove any Waste from a public litter bin or Recyclable Waste Collection bin unless authorised by Council to do so.

- 11.2 No person shall, unless authorised by Council, paint or vandalise, or attach any material (including but not limited to stickers and posters) to any public litter bins or public Recyclable Waste collection bins.

## 12. Private Collection Bins in Public Places

- 12.1 No person shall place a privately owned bin in a public place for the collection of Recyclable Waste without prior authorisation by the Council.
- 12.2 The owner of that bin shall ensure that:
- a) Information is maintained on the bin that specifies:
    - the owner's name and a contact telephone number;
    - the type of Recyclable Waste that can be deposited in the bin; and
    - that no Recyclable Waste is to be left outside the bin;
  - b) the bin is kept clean and in good condition;
  - c) the bin is regularly emptied so that it does not become full or overflow; and
  - d) when the bin is emptied any waste placed in the vicinity of the bin is removed.
- 12.3 In the event of non-compliance with clause 12.2, the Council may:
- a) remove, impound and dispose of the bin and any waste contained therein in accordance with sections 164, 165 and 168 of the Local Government Act 2002 or section 81, 84 and 85 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, and may recover the cost from the owner.

## 13. Waste Management for Special Events

- 13.1 A Special Event shall not be held in or on a Public Place without prior authorisation by the Council. An application for authorisation must be made in the prescribed form, and shall include, to the satisfaction of Council having regard to the size and nature of the Special Event, a waste management plan. The waste management plan may be required to identify:
- a) an estimate of the types and volumes of waste to be generated by the event;
  - b) any opportunities for waste minimisation;
  - c) the steps to be taken to maximise the use and collection of recyclable or re-usable materials;
  - d) the waste and Recyclable Waste collection, storage and transportation equipment to be provided;
  - e) the Licensed Waste Collector and/or Licensed Waste Operator retained by the organiser for the event; and
  - f) the arrangements made for the provision of post-event waste audits and analysis and the reporting of that information to Council.
- 13.2 Any organiser or agent of the organiser shall comply with the terms and conditions of the authorisation given by the Council, including any approved waste management plan.

## **14. Waste Management Facilities**

- 14.1 Any person wishing to operate a Waste Management Facility, other than the Council, must obtain and hold a current License to do so under clause 15 of this bylaw.
- 14.2 No person shall:
- a) Enter a Waste Management Facility without authorisation from the operator of that facility;
  - b) Deposit at a Waste Management Facility any Waste of a type that is not permitted at that facility;
  - c) Deposit Waste at any location within a Waste Management Facility that has not been marked or designated for Waste of that particular type;
  - d) Move or remove any article, material or waste found in a Waste Management Facility without the authorisation of the operator of that facility.

## **15. Licensing of Waste Collectors and Waste Management Facilities**

### Waste Collectors and Operators to be Licensed

- 15.1 Any person involved in the removal, collection or transportation of Waste from within or to, or disposal of Waste from, the Council's district where the total amount of the Waste to be removed collected and transported in any 12 month period will exceed 20 tonnes must hold a current License to do so from the Council;
- 15.2 Any person involved in the operation of a Waste Management Facility must hold a current License to do so from the Council.
- 15.3 Applications for Licenses must be made in the prescribed form, describe the activities in respect of which the License is sought and be accompanied by such further supporting information as the Council may require to enable Council to grant the application, and an application fee as determined by Council's fees and charges by the Act.
- 15.4 Licenses shall be granted at the discretion of the Council, upon and subject to such terms and conditions as the Council considers are appropriate, taking into account matters as it sees fit, including those listed in clause 15.7.
- 15.5 A License is personal to the holder and is not transferable.
- 15.6 Should a license fail to comply with any of the terms or conditions of the License the Council may revoke the License.

License Conditions

- 15.7 The terms and conditions upon which a License may be granted include, but are not limited to the following:
- a) Term – A License shall be granted for a term of up to 5 years and is able to be renewed for a further 5 years.
  - b) License Fee – The license must pay an annual License fee in an amount determined by the Council from time to time and publicly notified.
  - c) Bond – The licensee must post a bond guaranteed (or cash, at the licensee's election) performance bond for an amount not exceeding \$20,000, or such amount as determined by the Council from time to time based on the individual circumstances and risk of the particular applicant, and publicly notified.
  - d) Compliance with standards – The licensee must comply with the Council's standards and policies for waste collection, removal, transportation or disposal services including, in respect of collection services:
    - i. Provision of waste collection services on the days and at the times nominated by the Council.
  - e) That the Licensee must provide waste data to the Council during the term of the License in the form and at the times determined by the Council from time to time including the following:
    - i. Recording the quantity, source and destination of each waste type and the point in time when such data was recorded during the waste collection, removal, transportation or disposal process.
    - ii. Weighbridge receipts, Gate records of waste tonnages as specified in the license.
- 15.8 When exercising its discretion to grant a License and the conditions to be imposed under it, the Council may take into account such matters as it sees fit including but not limited to the following:
- a) The extent to which licensed activities will promote public health and safety and achievement of the Council's waste management plan and waste reduction initiatives.
  - b) The type of waste to be removed collected or transported.
  - c) The manner of treatment (if any) and disposal of the waste type, and the identity of the Waste Management Facility at which it is proposed that treatment or disposal will occur.
  - d) The frequency and location of the waste collection, removal, transportation or disposal services.
  - e) The specifications of the vehicles, equipment and Approved Receptacles to be used for collection, removal, transportation or disposal of waste.
  - f) The applicant's experience, reputation and track record in the waste industry, including any known past operational issues which may affect, or may in the future affect, the applicant's performance.

- g) The applicant's financial position.
- h) The terms and conditions under which such disposal of waste is permitted and the existence of or need for any statutory approvals, authorisations or consents required to be held or complied with in respect of such disposal.

## 16. Offences

- 16.1 Every person breaches this bylaw and commits an offence who:
- a) Does anything, or permits anything to be done that is contrary to this bylaw;
  - b) Fails to do or perform any act or thing that is required by this Bylaw, within the time and manner required;
  - c) Fails to comply with any term or condition of any authorisation, including a License, granted by the Council under this Bylaw.

## 17. Enforcement & Penalties

- 17.1 Any person who commits a breach of this Bylaw shall be liable on summary conviction to the penalty set out in section 242(4) of the Local Government Act 2002 and/or section 66 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, being a fine not exceeding \$20,000.

**Note:** In the event of a breach of this bylaw the Council also has available to it all the powers available to it under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, including:

- a) the powers under sections 81 and 82 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to seize and impound property;
- b) the power to issue an infringement notice under section 74 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008;
- c) the power under section 162 of the Local Government Act 2002 to apply for an injunction restraining a person from committing a breach of this bylaw or an offence;
- d) the power under sections 164, 165, and 168 of the Local Government Act 2002 to seize and impound property and then to dispose of that property;
- e) the power under sections 171, 172, and 173 of the Local Government Act 2002 to enter property.

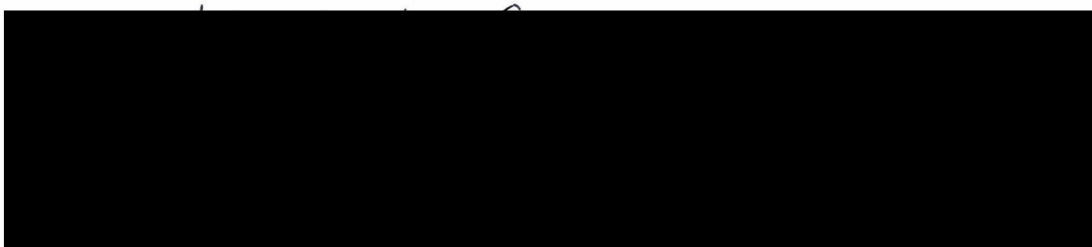
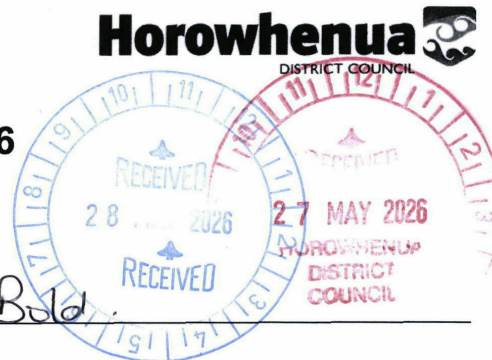
## Submission Form Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026

Please print using a black or dark blue pen

### Your details

Full Name: Vivienne Gwennyth Bold

Name of organisation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_



Please tick this box if you want to keep your contact details private.

### Are you:

A ratepayer  A resident  A non-resident ratepayer  Other (please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

### Communication

Preferred method of communication:  Email  Telephone

### Hearing of Submissions

Submissions will be heard by the Hearings Committee, on a date to be confirmed.

Do you wish to present your submission to Council at a hearing?  Yes  No

If yes, do you require a (please tick):

Sign language interpreter  A translator

### Submissions can be:

- **Delivered to:** Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 Submission, Horowhenua District Council, 126 Oxford Street, Levin.
- **Posted to:** Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 Submission, Horowhenua District Council, Private Bag 4002, Levin 5440.
- **Emailed to:** [submissions@horowhenua.govt.nz](mailto:submissions@horowhenua.govt.nz)

**Submissions must be provided to Council by no later than 4pm on Friday 29 May 2026.**

Copies of the Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw 2026 are available online at [letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/ProposedSolidWasteBylaw2026](https://letskorero.horowhenua.govt.nz/ProposedSolidWasteBylaw2026) or at Council's Civic Building (126 Oxford Street, Levin), Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō (10 Bath Street, Levin), Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom (92 Main Street, Foxton) or Shannon Library (Plimmer Terrace).

For any queries, please contact Horowhenua District Council on (06) 366 0999.

(continued overleaf)

**My Submission(s):**

Any additional comments can be attached and submitted with this form.

**1. Do you support the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw?**

Yes       Somewhat       No

**Comments:**

2. 1. a) - To Monitor and regulate All Waste - Tanker & Trade Waste too especially disposal OF!

3. Hazardous Waste (a) contains hazardous Substances of sufficient concentration to exceed the minimum Regulations 2000 - (Hazardous and New Organism Act 1996) or Dangerous Goods 1999 + Transport of Dangerous Goods on Land 1999

Prohibited Waste that would endanger any person, animal or thing.  
Any liquid or any viscous fluid.

I include these Acts/Requirements  
Because Tanker Waste seems to differ from Trade Waste deliveries  
JBs' Tankers need to show where they empty their tankers especially from Alliance.  
It is NOT environmental.

**Privacy Statement**

All submissions made are publicly available on our website and at Council service centres. Your personal details (including name and contact details) will be provided in their entirety to Elected Members and made available to the public at our office and on our website, unless submitters request that this information be kept private. We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal.

For more information, see our privacy statement on [www.horowhenua.govt.nz/PrivacyStatement](http://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/PrivacyStatement)

## Submitter Number: 2

**Full Name:** Thomas McDougal

**Organisation:** J.J. Richards & Sons NZ Pty Ltd T/A JJ's Waste & Recycling

**Suburb:** Not Applicable

**Wish to speak to the submission:** No

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### Your submission

Yes

Please tell us why you chose that option

Good Morning,

Just after some clarification for "15.7 c) Bond", does this apply to licensees solely provide private commercial collections services?

If so, what is the expected bond?

Thank you.

Kind Regards,

Thomas McDougal

## Submitter Number: 3

**Full Name:**Helen Russell

**Organisation:**

**Suburb:**Not Applicable

**Wish to speak to the submission:**No

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### Your submission

Yes

Please tell us why you chose that option

It makes sense to wait til next year and consider the options during the longer year plan considerations

## Submitter Number: 4

**Full Name:**Brian Cox  
**Organisation:**  
**Suburb:**Not Applicable  
**Wish to speak to the submission:**Yes

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### Your submission

Some of it  
Please tell us why you chose that option

The draft bylaw as written is not appropriate for a modern territorial authority. It is very limited in its scope and objective. No longer fit for purpose for a modern community. It does not cover the extensive amounts of organic material that is currently wasted but which could be recycled to produce valuable products such as energy and biofertilisers.

A modern Bylaw would include an objective of maximising the value of waste that can not be avoided in other ways such as recycling organic material to produce energy and biofertiliser.

This is an old style Bylaw which focuses on minimisation of waste rather than optimising how waste is collected and recycled to produce valuable products.

However I support the proposal of rolling this existing bylaw over so that there is time to develop a more appropriate Bylaw. With the possible merger of territorial authorities it is also more efficient for any new governance entity to investigate a more appropriate bylaw. In rolling the existing bylaw over it is important that Council start immediately consulting on what a more appropriate bylaw should look like. This work can then be taken to any new governance entity that evolves.

I have extensive experience in this topic and would be pleased to assist develop a new bylaw.

File No.: 26/368

## 6.5 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2026 Remits

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### 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 2026 being held online on Friday 31 July 2026.

**This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.**

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/368 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2026 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 Deputy Mayor David Allan as alternative delegates.
- C. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 1, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to government for the reform of the Dog Control Act 1996 to provide councils with more effective powers and tools to undertake their dog control responsibilities including:*
  - *greater scope for earlier intervention*
  - *stronger consequences for non-compliance*
  - *better ability for councils to set minimum requirements for dog owners - including for desexing and containment*
- D. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 2, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to central government for legislative change to provide territorial authorities with greater regulatory and enforcement powers over vape retailers, including the ability to control the location, density, operation, advertising, product visibility and compliance standards of vape stores within their districts.*
- E. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 3, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to central government to provide specific targeted financial support to councils to implement the operational and governance changes that are proposed through the legislative reform programme, for example Simplifying Local Government and RMA reforms.*
- F. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 4, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to the Government, on behalf of its members, for compliance relief from the upcoming representation review requirements in light of the significant reforms proposed through the Simplifying Local Government programme and the*

*recent Head Start pathway, which may render any review undertaken before the 2028 elections redundant.*

- G. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 5, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate for legislative changes to devolve authority for officiating geographic place names from the Minister for Land Information to local authorities.*
- H. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 6, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to formalise and increase its role in supporting subnational diplomacy including developing clear policy and capability to support and grow local government's contribution.*
- I. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 7, which is:  
*That LGNZ calls on government, opposition parties and NZTA to support a move to bulk funding for basic and repeatable transport activities, thereby acknowledging the efficiency and financial gains, and reduction in funding risk, this change would provide to local government, and supports a trial of this proposed bulk-funding approach for the 2027 2030 funding round amongst a group of councils which have demonstrated strong performance in delivering public transport services and/or maintaining transport infrastructure.*
- J. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 8, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate to government for improvements to the efficiency, proportionality, and cost-effectiveness of audit requirements for Long Term Plans and Consultation Documents, including:*
- 1. Greater proportionality in audit requirements, ensuring that audit effort is aligned with council size, complexity, risk, and materiality; and*
  - 2. Reducing duplication across audit stages, particularly where similar information and assumptions are subject to repeated review; and*
  - 3. Improving standardisation, transparency, and cost control in audit delivery, to reduce rework and improve consistency across the sector, and to constrain excessive or escalating audit fees through greater transparency of audit pricing and benchmarking of costs across the sector.*
- K. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 9, which is:  
*That LGNZ advocate for a fairer approach towards uneconomic transport infrastructure, where either NZTA commits to co-funding this infrastructure if councils remain legally obligated to own and maintain it, and/or the Government provides clearer guidance and support for councils downgrading or ceasing service to low traffic volume areas*

## **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 online AGM this year will be His Worship the Mayor Bernie Wanden and Deputy Mayor David Allan. The Chief Executive will also be attending

### **DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA**

5. Nine 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 online on Friday 31 July 2026.
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 KÖRERO**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">A</a>	LGNZ Remits - AGM 2026	96



# Remits

// Remits to LGNZ's Annual General Meeting

// 2026





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## 1. Priorities for Dog Control Act reform

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Rotorua Lakes Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	Invercargill City Council, Gisborne District Council, Tauranga City Council, Hamilton City Council and Far North District Council
<b>Remit:</b>	<i>That LGNZ advocate to government for the reform of the Dog Control Act 1996 to provide councils with more effective powers and tools to undertake their dog control responsibilities including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>greater scope for earlier intervention</i></li><li>• <i>stronger consequences for non-compliance</i></li><li>• <i>better ability for councils to set minimum requirements for dog owners - including for desexing and containment</i></li></ul>

### Why is this remit important?

Councils across New Zealand are experiencing increasing issues with dog aggression, uncontrolled breeding, roaming dogs, and low compliance with microchipping and desexing requirements. Current provisions in the Dog Control Act 1996 limit councils' ability to respond effectively to these challenges. Without stronger tools and clearer powers, these issues will continue to pose real and ongoing health and safety risks to the communities we serve. Legal advice indicates that many of the measures needed to deliver sustainable, long-term improvements can only be achieved through amendments to the Act itself, rather than through a Local Bill or council bylaw. For this reason, advocacy through LGNZ is important to help enable the legislative change needed to better protect communities and support responsible dog ownership and councils' regulatory role in this.

### Background and context

Councils across New Zealand are experiencing increasing challenges relating to dog aggression, uncontrolled breeding, roaming dogs, and low compliance with microchipping and desexing requirements. These issues are occurring within the framework of the Dog Control Act 1996, which was introduced to promote responsible dog ownership, ensure public safety, and minimise nuisance caused by dogs. However, many councils now find the Act limits their ability to respond effectively to modern dog control issues. Recent tragic dog attack incidents across the country have heightened public concern and renewed calls from communities and councils for stronger tools to manage high-risk dogs and irresponsible ownership. Local authorities report increasing numbers of roaming dogs, dog attacks, and ongoing pressure on council pounds due to the statutory seven-day minimum impoundment period. Enforcement can also be difficult where dogs are not microchipped or cannot be easily traced to an owner.



Rotorua Lakes Council and many other councils have explored a range of options to address these issues locally. This includes reviewing dog control bylaws, strengthening local enforcement practices, and seeking legal advice on whether a Local Bill or bylaw amendments could introduce measures such as mandatory desexing of impounded dogs, mandatory vaccination for pound-released dogs, or extending microchipping requirements to working dogs. However, legal advice confirms that many of these measures cannot be implemented through local bylaws because they would be inconsistent with the provisions of the Dog Control Act 1996. For example, working dogs are currently exempt from mandatory microchipping under the Act, meaning councils cannot require this through a bylaw. Similarly, councils are limited in their ability to require mandatory desexing except in very specific circumstances, and there is currently no legislative basis for requiring vaccinations such as parvovirus. Other challenges include outdated infringement penalties (currently capped at \$3,000 for many offences), delays in prosecution and destruction order processes, and limited powers to intervene early in escalating risk situations.

Because dog control is a national regulatory issue rather than a district-specific one, legal advice indicates that a Local Bill would have little prospect of success. As a result, meaningful and consistent improvements will require amendments to the Dog Control Act 1996 at a national level. Many councils have signalled support for changes such as mandatory microchipping for all dogs, stronger seizure powers, improved containment requirements for high-risk dogs, reduced impoundment periods, and updated penalties and enforcement tools. Collectively, these changes would strengthen councils' ability to manage risk and better protect communities.

### **How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

This remit directly relates to LGNZ's strategic purpose to serve members by championing, connecting and supporting local government and advocating for local government on critical issues.

### **How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

Rotorua Lakes Council has already shared proposed legislative improvements with LGNZ and the Minister of Local Government to support advocacy work already underway to strengthen the Dog Control Act. Rotorua Lakes Council is committed to continuing to support this work and is willing to provide further information, operational insights and data, and feedback to assist any review of the Act. Our first-hand experience with dog control and enforcement provides useful evidence about the challenges councils face and the legislative barriers that currently limit effective responses. We are also willing to work closely with LGNZ, other councils, and sector partners to help build support for these changes. This includes sharing data, contributing to working groups, assisting with policy development, and supporting advocacy to central



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government. Rotorua Lakes Council has proactively started work in this space and is ready to further contribute to the collaborative work needed to make meaningful improvements to the Act and ensure councils have the tools needed to better protect their communities.



## 2. Improved regulation of vape retailers

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Wairoa District Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	Manawatū District Council, Stratford District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Gisborne District Council, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council and Central Hawke's Bay District Council
<b>Remit:</b>	<i>That LGNZ advocate to central government for legislative change to provide territorial authorities with greater regulatory and enforcement powers over vape retailers, including the ability to control the location, density, operation, advertising, product visibility and compliance standards of vape stores within their districts.</i>

### Why is this remit important?

The rapid growth of vape retailers across New Zealand has raised increasing concerns regarding youth exposure, public health impacts, community wellbeing and the concentration of vape stores near schools, community facilities and town centres. Territorial authorities currently have limited ability to influence where vape retailers operate; how many may establish within a district or how vaping products are promoted and accessed locally.

Councils are increasingly responding to community concerns regarding the normalisation of vaping among rangatahi, and the long-term social and health impacts associated with nicotine dependence. However, unlike alcohol or gambling regulation, councils currently lack sufficient legislative tools to effectively manage vape retailers through local planning, licensing or policy mechanisms.

This remit seeks stronger local government powers to enable councils to respond appropriately to local circumstances, protect vulnerable communities and ensure communities have a greater role in shaping decisions that impact public health, youth wellbeing and the character of local town centres.

### Background and context

The number of vape retailers operating throughout New Zealand has increased significantly in recent years, including within smaller provincial and rural communities. Many councils are experiencing growing public concern regarding the concentration of vape stores near schools, playgrounds, community hubs and town centres, and the increasing visibility and normalisation of vaping among young people.

Vaping products are primarily regulated under the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990 (SERPA) and associated regulations administered by central government.

Remits // 5



Current legislation includes restrictions on sales to persons under 18 years of age, advertising and promotion controls, product safety requirements and specialist vape retailer approvals through the Ministry of Health.

Despite these controls, territorial authorities currently have very limited ability to influence:

- where vape retailers establish within a district;
- the concentration or density of vape stores;
- proximity of retailers to schools or youth facilities;
- shopfront presentation, signage or visibility, or
- local licensing or consent requirements.

Unlike alcohol regulation under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 or gambling venue policies under the Gambling Act 2003, councils currently have no equivalent statutory mechanisms to manage the local impacts of vape retailers.

Communities have raised concerns regarding youth access and exposure, increasing nicotine dependence among rangatahi, retail saturation in vulnerable communities, and inconsistent compliance monitoring and enforcement. These concerns are particularly significant in rural and provincial communities already experiencing inequitable health outcomes.

While councils are increasingly expected to respond to these issues, existing legislative pathways through district plans or bylaws are limited and not specifically designed to regulate vape retail activities. This creates uncertainty and inconsistency nationally.

This remit seeks legislative reform to provide councils with fit-for-purpose powers to regulate the location, density and operation of vape retailers, better protect vulnerable communities and ensure local communities have greater input into decisions affecting public health, youth wellbeing and town centre environments.

### **How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

This remit aligns with LGNZ's broader advocacy focus on strengthening local decision making, improving community wellbeing outcomes, and ensuring councils have fit-for-purpose legislative tools to respond to emerging community issues.

The proposed remit supports LGNZ's advocacy regarding public health, community resilience and empowering local government to respond to place-based challenges. It also aligns with wider conversations around community safety, youth wellbeing and ensuring local authorities have appropriate regulatory mechanisms to manage activities that significantly impact local communities.

This remit does not duplicate existing legislative mechanisms currently available to councils and instead seeks to address a recognised regulatory gap within the current framework.



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**How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

Wairoa District Council would support LGNZ by sharing local experiences, community feedback and operational challenges associated with the growth of vape retailers within provincial and rural communities. Council would also assist in identifying the impacts that vape retailer concentration can have on youth wellbeing, public health outcomes and town centre environments.

The Council would be willing to participate in sector discussions, working groups and engagement processes relating to vaping regulation and local government powers. This may include contributing to the development of national policy positions, providing practical case studies and supporting evidence gathering to demonstrate the need for stronger local regulatory tools.

Wairoa District Council would also support collaboration with other councils and Zone networks to identify common concerns, share approaches and collectively advocate for legislative reform. In addition, Council would be prepared to engage with central government agencies and relevant stakeholders to help develop practical, enforceable and locally responsive regulatory solutions that better enable councils to respond to community expectations and local circumstances.

### **Vape Retail Regulation – Supporting Statistics Snapshot**

#### **National Vaping Trends**

- Daily vaping among NZ adults increased from 3.5% in 2019/2020 to 11.7% in 2024/2025.<sup>1</sup>
- Over 509,000 New Zealander's now vape daily.<sup>2</sup>
- Approximately 23% of 18-24 year olds vape daily.<sup>3</sup>

#### **Youth & Māori Impacts**

- Daily vaping among 15-17 year olds increased from 2.6% to 13.6% since 2019/2020.<sup>4</sup>
- Māori youth continue to experience disproportionately high vaping rates.<sup>5</sup>
- School stand-downs for vaping/smoking increased by 73% between 2021-2023.<sup>6</sup>

#### **Vape Retailer Concerns**

- Approximately 71% of vape retailers nationally operate within 800m of schools.<sup>7</sup>
- Around 29% of vape retailers are within 400m (5 minute walk) of schools.
- Research shows vape retailers are disproportionately concentrated in higher deprivation communities.<sup>8</sup>

#### **Legislative Gap**

Under the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Act 1990, councils currently have limited powers to:

- Restrict vape shop locations or density.
- Prevent vape stores near schools.
- Introduce local licensing frameworks; or
- Manage local retail visibility and concentration.

Unlike alcohol regulation under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 or gambling venue policies under the Gambling Act 2003, councils currently have no equivalent statutory tools to manage local vape retail impacts.

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<sup>1</sup> [Annual Update of Key Results 2024/25: New Zealand Health Survey | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Vaping prevalence and trends: Findings from the 2024-25 NZ Health Survey | PHCC](#)

<sup>3</sup> [Annual Update of Key Results 2024/25: New Zealand Health Survey | Ministry of Health NZ](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Vaping prevalence and trends: Findings from the 2024-25 NZ Health Survey | PHCC](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Vapefree schools | Health Professionals](#)

<sup>6</sup> [‘Kids are doing this everywhere’: New Zealand wrestles with rise of primary school vaping | New Zealand | The Guardian](#)

<sup>7</sup> [New Zealand researchers find more vape stores in deprived areas and near schools](#)

<sup>8</sup> [Investigating the spatial and temporal variation of vape retailer provision in New Zealand: A cross-sectional and nationwide study - ScienceDirect](#)



### 3. Financial support for government reform implementation costs

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Whangārei District Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	LGNZ Zone 1
<b>Remit:</b>	<i>That LGNZ advocate to central government to provide specific targeted financial support to councils to implement the operational and governance changes that are proposed through the legislative reform programme, for example Simplifying Local Government and RMA reforms.</i>

#### Why is this remit important?

It is recognised that the Department of Internal Affairs is providing great support across the board for district and regional councils throughout the various reform programmes that are underway.

The toll of the changes and implementation is being felt at a local level, and it would be appropriate for central government to recognise this burden on the local government sector and provide some financial certainty to ratepayers by providing ring-fenced financial support for the reforms. Additional support could be included that ensures nationwide alignment on approach, or the provision of a suite of core document templates for use by all with a view to reducing workload at a local level.

#### Background and context

Since September 2025, central government has introduced significant legislative reforms affecting local government, including amendments to the Local Government Act and the replacement of the Resource Management Act.

These changes impose substantial new statutory, planning, system, and reporting obligations on councils, many of which involve one off and transitional implementation costs not provided for in existing funding arrangements.

We want to acknowledge that the Department of Internal Affairs is providing great support across the board for district and regional councils throughout the various reform programmes that are underway. This includes the support that has been provided over the last couple of years in relation to the water reforms.

It does need to be recognised that a council's ability to raise revenue is constrained. This is due to the current cost of living crisis and the proposed rates caps to be introduced in this

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triennium. Council is asking LGNZ to recognise that the toll for the legislative changes and their implementation is being felt at a local level and it would be appropriate for central government to recognise this burden on the local government sector and provide some financial certainty to ratepayers by providing ring-fenced financial support for the reforms.

Central government funding is required to enable timely and effective implementation of these mandated reforms, while avoiding significant increase in the cost to ratepayers or reduction in existing services.

### **How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

LGNZ has an influencing role with central government, and they understand that New Zealanders need to value their local council and trust that it is financially sustainable. LGNZ has a key priority in maintaining a constructive relationship with central government but also to ensure that the membership base has the support it needs to implement changes that come from updated legislation. We believe that this remit is directly aligned to LGNZ's current work programme.

### **How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

Whangarei District Council will support LGNZ in conversations in relation to this remit. We are willing to provide evidence of additional costs, some of which is already gathered in public meeting agendas, and additional resource requirements the Council is having to support without any budget to fund these activities.



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## 4. Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government reform

**Proposed by:** Waikato District Council

**Supported by:** LGNZ Zone 2

**Remit:** *That LGNZ advocate to the Government, on behalf of its members, for compliance relief from the upcoming representation review requirements in light of the significant reforms proposed through the Simplifying Local Government programme and the recent Head Start pathway, which may render any review undertaken before the 2028 elections redundant.*

### Why is this remit important?

Councils are required under the Local Electoral Act 2001 to undertake a representation review in preparation for the 2028 local government elections.

The current local government reform environment creates significant uncertainty about the long-term relevance and durability of representation arrangements determined through this review process.

Key contributing factors include:

- the Government's Simplifying Local Government reform programme;
- the recently announced Head Start pathway;
- potential future structural and governance changes, and
- the removal of Māori wards from some districts from 2028 onwards.

Requiring councils to commence representation reviews at this time would impose unavoidable and unjustifiable costs when ratepayer affordability pressures are already significant.

It would also require communities to participate in a complex statutory process that is likely to be superseded and ultimately rendered redundant by current government reform proposals, potentially necessitating a second review shortly thereafter.

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## Background and context

Representation reviews are a statutory requirement under the Local Electoral Act 2001 and must be undertaken by all local authorities at least every six years.

The purpose of a representation review is to determine how communities are democratically represented through local government arrangements. This includes consideration of:

- electoral voting systems (FPP or STV);
- Māori representation arrangements;
- the number of elected members;
- ward structures and boundaries;
- community board structures;
- population equity requirements;
- governance effectiveness, and
- compliance with Local Government Commission requirements.

Waikato District Council's last representation review was completed in 2021 for implementation at the 2022 local elections. The programme ran from March 2020 to September 2021 and included elected member workshops, a governance working group, public consultation, and hearings. The review was extensive, resource-intensive, and required substantial operational support across the Council.

A further key consideration for the upcoming representation review is the binding 2025 poll on Māori wards, through which the Council did not retain its two Māori wards. This position will vary across the country depending on the outcomes of local referendums. As a result, Māori wards in Waikato District will cease from 2028 onwards. This creates an additional structural change that must be considered as part of any future representation arrangements.

In February, the Waikato Mayoral Forum wrote to the Minister of Local Government and the Minister for the Environment in response to the Simplifying Local Government proposal and reinforced the need for compliance relief in key areas affected by the reform, including representation reviews.

In March 2026, Mayor Bech wrote to the Minister of Local Government seeking relief or a formal transition arrangement from the upcoming representation review requirement. This followed earlier engagement with both the Department of Internal Affairs and the Electoral Commission, each of which advised that it had no legal authority to grant relief. The letter set out concerns that undertaking a full review during a period of significant national reform would create unnecessary duplication, cost, and uncertainty.

The Mayor's correspondence specifically referenced:

- the Government's Simplifying Local Government reform programme;
- potential future boundary and governance changes;
- the removal of Māori wards;
- the lack of legislative discretion available for councils to defer reviews; and



- the estimated \$80,000–\$100,000 cost of undertaking a full representation review process.

While the Minister's office acknowledged receipt of the letter, no formal relief mechanism had been provided at the time this paper was submitted (22 May 2026).

### How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This remit aligns closely with LGNZ's current advocacy on the Simplifying Local Government reforms and practical transition pathways for councils navigating significant system change.

This remit supports that advocacy by seeking practical compliance relief for councils currently required to undertake representation reviews during a period of significant reform uncertainty.

It reinforces LGNZ's broader focus on localism, reducing unnecessary duplication, supporting fiscally responsible decision making, and ensuring councils can direct resources towards delivering long-term community outcomes rather than potentially redundant statutory processes.

The remit complements rather than duplicates LGNZ's existing reform advocacy by seeking a nationally coordinated response on behalf of affected councils.

### How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Waikato District Council would be willing to actively support LGNZ in progressing this remit through sector advocacy, evidence gathering, and engagement with central government agencies.

The Council has already undertaken significant work in this area, including:

- preparing a strategic governance paper outlining the implications of the Head Start pathway and wider reform programme for representation review obligations;
- engaging directly with the Minister of Local Government, the Department of Internal Affairs, and the Electoral Commission to seek transitional relief, and
- working collaboratively across Zone 2 councils to raise shared concerns regarding reform sequencing, affordability, and duplication risks.

The Council would be willing to:

- share analysis, correspondence, and supporting material to inform LGNZ advocacy;
- contribute to discussions with Ministers, DIA, and sector working groups;
- support the development of a nationally consistent position on representation review relief and transition arrangements, and
- provide practical insight into the operational, governance, and financial implications of undertaking representation reviews during a period of significant reform uncertainty.

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The intent of this remit is not to avoid statutory obligations, but to ensure that councils are not required to undertake potentially duplicative and resource-intensive processes while broader local government reform remains unresolved.



## 5. Devolution of place-naming authority to Territorial Authorities

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Far North District Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	Northland Regional Council, Porirua City Council, Kāpiti Coast District Council, Rangitikei District Council and Whakatāne District Council
<b>Remit:</b>	<i>That LGNZ advocate for legislative changes to devolve authority for officiating geographic place names from the Minister for Land Information to local authorities.</i>

### Why is this remit important?

Local communities are best placed to make decisions about names that reflect their identity, history, and sense of belonging. While councils already name roads and streets, authority over official geographic names - such as mountains, rivers, towns, and bays - sits with the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa and the Minister for Land Information under the New Zealand Geographic Board Act 2008. This centralised system has produced outcomes that lack local knowledge, overlook iwi and hapū relationships, or fail to reflect a community's lived history. Councils have highlighted examples such as the decline of locally supported historical names (Russell, Kororāreka), or cases where official spellings have been approved that do not reflect how names are commonly used, spoken, or understood locally.

Devolving authority to local government, in partnership with mana whenua, would ensure place naming is grounded in authentic local voice while reducing unnecessary bureaucracy. At the LGNZ Rural and Provincial meeting in November 2025, Minister Penk indicated support for this remit and the localised outcomes it seeks to achieve.

### Background and context

Under the New Zealand Geographic Board Act 2008, the New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB) holds sole authority to assign, approve, alter, or discontinue official geographic place names. While the Board includes representatives from local government and Māori development, its decision-making framework remains national, centralised, and governed by statutory processes that do not always reflect local identity or lived experience.

Local authorities already demonstrate strong capability in place-based naming through their delegated authority for naming roads and streets. These decisions routinely incorporate local history, community values, and the guidance of mana whenua. However, when it comes to naming mountains, rivers, settlements, bays, and other significant features, councils and iwi

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must defer to a national body, even in cases where local expertise, whakapapa, and historical evidence are well established.

This centralised model can create a disconnect between official names, and the communities that hold whakapapa and lived connection to those places. Consultation occurs but local knowledge is not determinative and decisions may not align with regional dialects, historical narratives, or cultural contexts. Councils have highlighted examples where locally supported names or spellings were not adopted or where national decisions did not fully recognise the depth of local iwi and hapū relationships with place. In the Far North, we refer to the name restoration process for Russell (Kororāreka) which while strongly supported at a local level, failed to receive centralised support.

Returning decision making to local authorities would strengthen the integrity and authenticity of geographic names. It would allow naming processes to better reflect regional narratives, uphold te reo Māori orthographic conventions, and ensure communities have a meaningful role in shaping the identity of the landscapes they inhabit. Devolving authority would also streamline the process by reducing a layer of central bureaucracy while retaining opportunities for national consistency through guidelines and shared standards.

### **How does this remit relate to LGNZ’s current work programme?**

This remit aligns strongly with LGNZ’s long term goal of “local decisions matter”, and aligns with LGNZ’s advocacy for:

- strengthened local decision making;
- improved Crown-local government-iwi partnerships, and
- recognition of local identity and community driven governance.

It also enhances LGNZ’s ongoing work to promote localism, reduce unnecessary centralisation, and strengthen community wellbeing through place-based decision making.

### **How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

The Far North District Council will support LGNZ’s advocacy on this remit by contributing sector leadership and local, practical insights. We have extensive experience working with LINZ on the correction and officiating of Māori place names, including active participation in the “Approving of Unofficial Place Names” workstream. With 1,682 unofficial Māori place names currently progressing through LINZ processes, we hold a strong understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the present system.

FNDC is committed to supporting this remit’s progression alongside LGNZ.



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## 6. Enhanced role for government in supporting subnational diplomacy

**Proposed by:** Palmerston North City Council

**Supported by:** Metro Sector

**Remit:** *That LGNZ advocate to government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to formalise and increase its role in supporting subnational diplomacy including developing clear policy and capability to support and grow local government's contribution*

### Why is this remit important?

Subnational diplomacy (such as the work councils do through their sister cities) extends the reach of national diplomacy by connecting communities and exporters from local areas with overseas communities and export opportunities. This has been demonstrated by the complementary role sister city relationships with cities in China has played in maximising the benefits of the free trade agreement.

### Background and context

A number of other nations play a more explicit role in supporting and setting direction for sub-national diplomacy.

Examples of countries which engage in this space include:

- United States of America – the US Department of State has a specific Subnational Diplomacy Unit headed by a Special Representative for City and State Diplomacy. This unit, and the ambassador, supports US national security priorities by integrating local ideas into foreign policy and fostering connections among cities, municipalities, and communities in the United States and abroad.
- Australia – the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has offices across each state capital which supports local and state government foreign and trade relationships.



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**How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

This remit aligns with LGNZ's long-term goal that New Zealanders value councils given the direct financial benefits this could provide. There is also potential alignment with the Advocacy Priority resilient communities, economies, and environments.



## 7. Bulk funding of transport activities

**Proposed by:** Waikato Regional Council

**Supported by:** Zone 2

**Remit:** *That LGNZ calls on government, opposition parties and NZTA to support a move to bulk funding for basic and repeatable transport activities, thereby acknowledging the efficiency and financial gains, and reduction in funding risk, this change would provide to local government, and supports a trial of this proposed bulk-funding approach for the 2027-2030 funding round amongst a group of councils which have demonstrated strong performance in delivering public transport services and/or maintaining transport infrastructure.*

### Why is this remit important?

Central government via NZTA tightly controls the distribution of transport funding to achieve national outcomes even though around 50% of all costs are funded via rates.

Most transport funding is approved project by project, requiring achievement of defined business case and approval requirements, before funding is committed. Stringent compliance and reporting requirements are imposed on the local government sector, increasing costs for councils, and reducing efficiency and productivity.

Accelerating the move to bulk funding for basic transport activities, as is seen in many countries globally, would enable local government to operate more flexibly, optimising investment and improving efficiency. Councils have detailed knowledge of their networks, good awareness of resilience and lifeline requirements, and a good understanding of local need.

Maintenance and renewal programmes, public transport services, and the delivery of safety and minor works packages would all benefit from predictable, multi-year funding certainty.

### Background and context

In the OECD context, New Zealand is highly centralised. Central government via NZTA tightly controls the distribution of transport funding to achieve national outcomes.

Internationally, bulk funding models for transport are widely used to provide transport authorities with predictable, flexible, multi-year funding approvals. This enables the central government focus to shift from assessing and approving individual projects to supporting strategic policy outcomes. It also enables a reduction in compliance and reporting requirements. It supports local and regional stewardship of networks while improving

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procurement and delivery performance. A SWOT analysis and global examples of bulk funding for public transport services are provided in Attachment One.

Councils across the country are about to commence work on Long Term Plans and the Regional Land Transport Plan. These are delivered as required by the Local Government Act and the Land Transport Management Act (LTMA). The LTMA requires regions to demonstrate alignment to the priorities of central government even if around 50% of the funding comes from ratepayers rather than the Crown.

Due to this complex legislative structure, transport programmes (in all respects, from maintenance and renewals to public transport services, and from safety works to minor and major improvements) are required to follow multiple local, regional and national processes to secure funding.

The process of prioritising and funding transport activities could be simplified and de-risked significantly if central government and NZTA trusted local government to act in good faith on behalf of communities, and, with the reassurance of accountability and appropriate performance frameworks, provided bulk funding (perhaps at regional level and perhaps in 3 or 5 year blocks) for simple, repeatable, ongoing work programmes. This would enable regions and communities to prioritise and optimise their investment in transport through smarter procurement, resulting in lower administrative and regulatory burden.

Recently announced local government reform is focussed solely on amalgamation within regions and currently proposes no change to the delivery of transport activities.

Over recent funding rounds, NZTA is acknowledged for making limited progress in moving towards bulk funding, for example for some smaller councils. There may be further tweaks in the 2027-30 funding round.

This remit supports the progress made and seeks acceleration of this for all other basic, repeatable transport activities nationally. There are multiple benefits that could be achieved from this change.

At national level, removal and de-politicisation of basic transport activities (estimated at approximately 80% of the total spend) would enable the Minister of Transport, via the Government Policy Statement on Land Transport, to fully focus on prioritising significant investment (the remaining 20%) on central government priorities such as resilience, safety, emissions reduction or roads of national significance.

There would be a large reduction in the requirements of the National Land Transport Programme prepared by NZTA. Bulk funding of basic transport activities would save NZTA significant time and cost.

Regional Land Transport Plans could be simplified and would be fully focussed on more significant inter-regional and system-change priorities. This presents a resource and cost-saving to regional councils.

Local and regional government would be able to undertake the transport portion of their Long Term Plans with less risk and more funding certainty.



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### How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

The issue directly relates to several of LGNZ's 'key issues for councils'.

- Transport: New Zealand needs greater investment from central government and more joined-up central and local government planning that prioritises building and better asset management. The current approach to investment and planning is not working, nor is it fit for the future. How to make public transport more affordable and accessible.
- Funding & Financing: Advocacy for a 'toolbox' approach to funding and financing to provide councils with a range of options to align national goals with local needs.
- Localism: Harnessing the power, knowledge, skills and views of local people to drive better outcomes.

### How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Zone 2 councils are willing to trial this proposed bulk-funding approach for the 2027 to 2030 funding round, including development of appropriate accountabilities and performance frameworks.

## Attachment One: Further Information

### **SWOT Analysis – Bulk Funding compared with Project-based Funding**

#### **Definition and focus**

##### Bulk funding

- Funding is provided as a programme-level envelope (often multi-year).
- The funder agrees *what outcomes and activity types* the money is for, but not every individual project.
- The recipient has delegated authority to prioritise and deliver works within agreed rules.

##### Project-based funding

- Funding is approved project by project.
- Each project must meet defined appraisal, business-case, and approval requirements before funding is committed.
- Control is retained centrally by the funder at each decision point.

#### **Decision-making and flexibility**

<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Bulk funding</b>	<b>Project-based funding</b>
Decision locus	Decentralised (recipient decides within limits)	Centralised (funder approves each project)
Ability to re-prioritise	High – funding can shift within the programme	Low – changes often require re-approval
Response to changing conditions	Fast (e.g. weather damage, demand shift)	Slower, constrained by approval cycles

Implication: Bulk funding suits environments where needs change frequently and trade-offs must be made continuously. Project funding suits situations where scope is fixed and certainty is required.

#### **Transaction and administrative cost**

##### Bulk funding

- Fewer funding applications and approvals.
- Lower appraisal cost per dollar spent.
- More emphasis on ex-post performance monitoring.

Project-based funding

- High upfront transaction costs (business cases, reviews, approvals).
- Repeated effort for similar or small projects.
- Strong ex-ante assurance but higher overhead.

Implication: Bulk funding is more efficient for many small or routine activities; project funding is defensible for large, discrete investments.

**Risk allocation**

Risk type	Bulk funding	Project-based funding
Delivery risk	Largely sits with recipient	Shared or retained by funder
Cost overrun risk	Managed within programme envelope	Often escalated back to funder
Portfolio risk	Actively managed by recipient	Managed implicitly via approvals

Implication: Bulk funding assumes the recipient is capable of portfolio and asset-management discipline. Project funding reduces funder exposure to poorly governed organisations but can shift risk management into bureaucratic processes.

**Accountability and performance**

Bulk funding

- Accountability is outcomes- and performance-based.
- Requires strong monitoring frameworks (KPIs, benchmarking, audits).
- Less visibility of individual project decisions, more focus on results.

Project-based funding

- Accountability is project- and compliance-based.
- Easier to trace decisions and costs to specific assets.
- Can encourage compliance behaviour rather than outcome optimisation.

Implication: Bulk funding works best where there is high trust and mature capability. Project funding suits lower-trust or high-scrutiny environments.

**Suitability by activity type**

Activity type	Better suited model	Why?
Routine maintenance & renewals	Bulk funding	Predictable, ongoing, portfolio-based

Public transport operations	Bulk funding	Requires service optimisation over time
Low-cost safety improvements	Bulk funding	Many small, standardised interventions
Major new infrastructure	Project-based funding	High cost, unique, high political and fiscal risk
Complex, novel investments	Project-based funding	Uncertainty requires detailed appraisal

### **Behavioural effects**

Bulk funding encourages

- Long-term planning and asset stewardship.
- Trade-offs across a network.
- Innovation and adaptive management.

Project-based funding encourages

- Project promotion and “salami slicing”.
- Optimisation of individual projects rather than systems.
- Risk-averse design to satisfy approval gates.

### **Strengths and weaknesses summary**

#### **Bulk funding**

##### *Strengths*

- Efficient delivery at scale
- High flexibility and responsiveness
- Strongly aligned with asset-management principles

##### *Weaknesses*

- Requires mature governance and capability
- Harder for outsiders to see “what was funded”
- Risk of under-investment in politically visible projects

#### **Project-based funding**

##### *Strengths*

- High transparency at project level
- Strong control of large or novel investments
- Clear political and fiscal accountability

#### *Weaknesses*

- High transaction costs
- Slow to respond to change
- Can undermine network-level optimisation

#### **Conclusion**

- Bulk funding is best for *ongoing, repeatable, network-wide activities* where flexibility and value-for-money over time matter most.
- Project-based funding is best for *large, discrete, high-risk investments* where certainty, scrutiny, and one-off decisions dominate.

In practice (including in New Zealand), effective transport systems use both models together, allocating each to the activity types they are best suited for rather than treating them as competing alternatives.

### **International examples – Delivery of Public Transport Services**

Internationally, bulk funding models for public transport are widely used to give transport authorities predictable, flexible, multi-year funding while shifting the focus from approving individual routes or projects to outcomes, performance, and network stewardship. Below is a structured overview of the main models in use globally, with concrete country examples.

#### **Block grants to sub-national governments or transport authorities**

##### *How the model works*

Central government provides a multi-year block grant for public transport. Money is not tied to specific projects or routes; instead, the recipient authority decides how to allocate funding across operations, service improvements, fleet renewal, or minor infrastructure within an agreed framework.

##### *Countries using this model*

- United Kingdom (England, outside London)
  - Local authorities receive consolidated Local Transport Grants, replacing older fragmented funding streams. These grants can be used for buses, public transport priority, accessibility, and service support, with local discretion over spending priorities.
- Germany
  - Federal “Regionalisation funds” are provided to Länder as block transfers to finance regional and local public transport services, especially rail, with states responsible for detailed allocation (documented by OECD trends).

- Canada
  - Cities and provinces receive long-term federal transfers (e.g. public transit streams under infrastructure programmes) that are broadly scoped rather than project-specific, supporting operational and capital needs.

Strengths: predictability, local optimisation, lower administrative burden.

Trade-off: relies on strong oversight and capable local institutions.

#### **Formula-based operating subsidies (network or service level)**

##### *How the model works*

Funding is allocated using objective formulas (population, service km, ridership, social need).

The operator or authority manages services within the resulting financial envelope.

##### *Countries using this model*

- Sweden & Nordic countries
  - Regional Public Transport Authorities receive predictable operating funding largely detached from individual line approvals, enabling network-wide planning.
- Japan (urban public transport)
  - Local and national governments provide formula-driven operating support combined with fare revenue, with strong emphasis on efficiency and service quality benchmarks.

Strengths: stability for operators, incentives for efficiency at network scale.

Trade-off: formulas must be kept current to reflect demand and cost changes.

#### **Earmarked payroll or local tax funding (hypothecated bulk revenue)**

##### *How the model works*

A dedicated tax or levy is assigned directly to public transport authorities. Revenues flow automatically and can be used flexibly for both operations and investment.

##### *Countries using this model*

- France – Versement mobilité
  - A mandatory payroll levy on employers ( $\geq 11$  employees) within transport authority areas. It is the single largest funding source for urban public transport and can be used as a bulk operating and capital funding pool.
- United States (selected metro areas)
  - Local sales taxes (e.g. Los Angeles, Seattle) fund transit agencies through dedicated, voter-approved taxes allocated as multi-year funding envelopes (OECD comparative analysis).

Strengths: stable, locally controlled, strongly aligned with beneficiaries.

Trade-off: revenue growth tied to economic cycles.

#### **Service contracts with global budgets (gross-cost or net-cost)**

*How the model works*

Public authorities enter multi-year contracts with operators. Instead of funding individual routes, a global operating budget is set, with performance incentives and penalties.

*Countries using this model*

- Europe (widely used): Germany, Netherlands, France
  - Authorities specify service outputs and quality standards while paying operators via bulk payments, often linked to punctuality, reliability, or customer satisfaction.
- Australia (bus networks)
  - State governments fund metropolitan bus networks through long-term contracts with operators, using bulk payments rather than route-by-route approval (OECD evidence).

Strengths: cost control, clear accountability, flexibility to redesign networks.

Trade-off: requires sophisticated contract management.

**City-region multi-year settlements (outcome-based bulk funding)**

*How the model works*

Large metropolitan regions receive bespoke, multi-year funding settlements covering all local transport, including public transport operations, sometimes linked to agreed performance outcomes.

*Countries using this model*

- United Kingdom (mayoral city-regions and London)
  - City-region transport authorities receive long-term settlements enabling integrated planning across buses, metro, rail, and active transport.
- France (Île-de-France Mobilités)
  - Combines national funding, payroll levy revenue, and regional contributions into a large, flexible funding pool for the Paris region’s transport system.

Strengths: supports system integration and long-term planning.

Trade-off: complex negotiation and governance arrangements.

**Summary**

Bulk funding model	Typical users	Key feature
Block grants	UK, Germany, Canada	Local discretion within national envelope
Formula-based subsidies	Nordics, Japan	Predictable, objective allocation
Hypothecated taxes	France, US metros	Dedicated, stable revenue source

Global service contracts	EU, Australia	Budget + performance incentives
City-region settlements	UK metros, Paris	Integrated, outcome-focused funding

*Conclusion*

Across countries, bulk funding for public transport is used to stabilise finances, enable network-level optimisation, and reduce transaction costs. While design details vary, successful models share three features:

1. Multi-year certainty,
2. Local discretion paired with accountability, and
3. Performance or outcome-based oversight rather than project approval.



## 8. Improving LTP audit requirements

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Gisborne District Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	Central Hawke's Bay District Council, Hastings District Council, Stratford District Council, Taranaki Regional Council, New Plymouth District Council, Wairoa District Council, Manawatū District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Tararua District Council, Rangitikei District Council, Hawke's Bay Regional Council and Horowhenua District Council
<b>Remit:</b>	<p><i>That LGNZ advocate to government for improvements to the efficiency, proportionality, and cost-effectiveness of audit requirements for Long Term Plans and Consultation Documents, including:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><i>1. Greater proportionality in audit requirements, ensuring that audit effort is aligned with council size, complexity, risk, and materiality; and</i></li><li><i>2. Reducing duplication across audit stages, particularly where similar information and assumptions are subject to repeated review; and</i></li><li><i>3. Improving standardisation, transparency, and cost control in audit delivery, to reduce rework and improve consistency across the sector, and to constrain excessive or escalating audit fees through greater transparency of audit pricing and benchmarking of costs across the sector.</i></li></ol>

### Why is this remit important?

Local authorities are required to prepare Long Term Plans (LTP) that are subject to statutory audit by the Auditor-General. While audit plays a critical role in supporting transparency and accountability, the current approach imposes significant direct and indirect costs across the sector.

Audit requirements apply at multiple stages, including the consultation document and final LTP, and involve detailed supporting information, iterative review, and tight timeframes. This creates substantial organisational pressure and requires significant staff time, consultant input, and rework.

Audit effort is applied consistently across councils regardless of size, complexity, or risk, and can be disproportionate to risk or materiality.

As these requirements are set through legislative and assurance frameworks, individual councils have limited ability to influence them. Sector-level advocacy is required to ensure

Remits // 21



audit processes remain proportionate, efficient, and cost-effective while maintaining appropriate assurance.

### **Background and context**

The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires local authorities to prepare and adopt an LTP using the special consultative procedure, supported by an Auditor-General's audit opinion. This includes audit of both the consultation document and the final LTP.

These requirements are intended to support transparency, accountability, and sound long-term decision making. However, in practice, the audit component of the LTP process has become a significant cost driver for councils.

Audit processes apply at multiple stages and require extensive supporting information, detailed modelling, and iterative engagement with auditors. Councils must respond to audit queries, revisit assumptions, and undertake rework within constrained statutory timeframes. This creates sustained organisational pressure across finance, strategy, infrastructure, and governance functions.

The cost of audit is not limited to external audit fees. It includes substantial internal staff time, consultant support, and opportunity costs associated with diverting resources from service delivery and implementation.

Audit requirements are applied consistently across the sector, regardless of council size, complexity, or risk profile. This can result in audit effort that is disproportionate to the scale or materiality of the underlying issues.

In addition, the requirement to audit both the consultation document and final LTP creates duplication, with similar information and assumptions subject to repeated review.

This issue is sector-wide and cannot be addressed by individual councils, as audit requirements are set through legislative and assurance frameworks. There is an opportunity to improve the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of audit processes while maintaining appropriate levels of assurance.

### **How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

This remit aligns with LGNZ's role in advocating on matters of sector-wide significance and improving the effectiveness and efficiency of local government.

It supports LGNZ's focus on value for money, reducing unnecessary costs, and ensuring regulatory and assurance settings remain proportionate to risk and scale.

The remit is targeted and practical, focusing specifically on statutory audit requirements that apply across all councils and contribute to rising costs and organisational pressure.



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Based on publicly available information, this issue does not appear to be the subject of a specific LGNZ workstream. The remit would support LGNZ to advocate for improvements to audit processes that maintain transparency and accountability while improving efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

**How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

Gisborne District Council will:

- work with LGNZ and other councils to articulate the practical impacts of current LTP audit requirements;
- provide evidence of direct and indirect costs, including audit fees, staff time, and organisational impacts;
- contribute examples where audit effort is not proportionate to risk, scale, or materiality;
- support the development of practical improvements, including proportional audit approaches, reduced duplication, and improved pricing transparency, and
- participate in any sector engagement, working groups, or discussions with the Auditor-General and Government to progress improvements to audit processes.

The Council is committed to supporting sector-wide solutions that reduce unnecessary cost while maintaining robust public accountability.



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## 9. A fairer approach to uneconomic transport infrastructure funding

<b>Proposed by:</b>	<b>Stratford District Council</b>
<b>Supported by:</b>	South Taranaki District Council, New Plymouth District Council, Rangitikei District Council, Manawatū District Council and Wairoa District Council
<b>Remit:</b>	<i>That LGNZ advocate for a fairer approach towards uneconomic transport infrastructure, where either NZTA commits to co-funding this infrastructure if councils remain legally obligated to own and maintain it, and/or the Government provides clearer guidance and support for councils downgrading or ceasing service to low traffic volume areas</i>

### Why is this remit important?

The development of the Roothing Activity Management Plan includes the replacement of our structural assets. Included in the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan (LTP), we have four uneconomic bridges that require replacement at an estimated cost of \$4.5m. If NZTA will not co-fund these replacements and we cannot opt out of ownership, the burden will fall on ratepayers. We are not alone in this scenario: this is a national issue that New Zealand has to resolve.

### Background and context

Within the Stratford District there are 18 bridges that will fall into the category of uneconomic transport infrastructure. The definition of this category being “bridges built and currently maintained by council that generally only provide access to individual properties, or bridges built by council that are for private use.”. It should be noted that NZTA is considering a position whereby it will not co-fund the replacement of any uneconomic bridge unless it can be clearly demonstrated that the Gross Domestic Product generated from the land served by the bridge exceeds the cost of replacing the structure over its lifecycle. Legal advice obtained in 2016 states that “if the Council previously maintained/erected the bridge, then the responsibility for maintaining the bridge continues.”. In layman’s terms, if a public body (County, Borough or District Council), has spent public funds either constructing or maintaining a bridge, irrespective of its location, whether it is located on a maintained road or an un-maintained road (paper road), the Council still has a responsibility to maintain this bridge.



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**How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?**

LGNZ is focussed on helping councils meet the costs of maintaining their transport networks as part of its infrastructure work programme, especially in the face of rapidly rising costs for labour and materials. The unwillingness of the NZTA to fund this sort of infrastructure while still requiring councils to maintain it could also be considered a form of unfunded mandate imposed by central government, which has long been a focus area for LGNZ.

**How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?**

We have requested clarification of NZTA's stance on this issue through our relationship with the Director, Regional Relationships.

We are happy to make our existing legal opinion on Road Controlling Authority responsibilities available.

We are open to any other contribution that would be helpful.

File No.: 26/344

## 7.1 Mayoral Report

Author(s)	Bernie Wanden JP <b>Mayor   Kahika</b>
Approved by	Bernie Wanden JP <b>Mayor   Kahika</b>

### 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 from 16 May – 14 June 2026, and to provide an update on items of interest.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council receive and note Report 25/539 Mayoral Report.

### MATTERS OF INTEREST | NGĀ TAKE HIRAHIRA

2. The following meetings, functions and events were attended from 16 May – 14 June 2026.

#### MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS AND EVENTS ATTENDED

16 May – 14 June 2026
Resident meeting
LGNZ briefing: Unitary Councils
Head Start Discussion with KCDC
Mayor   Chief Executive weekly meeting
Enliven Homes
Regional Transport Matters – Regional Chiefs fortnightly teams meeting
Horowhenua Public Transport Governance Group meeting
Foxton Solar Farm meeting
Risk & Assurance Committee meeting
Council workshops
Council meeting with representatives of Te Tūmatakahuki
Regional Transport Committee workshop – Regional Land Transport Plan strategic direction
Simpson Grierson Legal Advice on Simplifying Local Government and Regional Governance Options
Central Districts Water – Joint Shareholders' Committee meeting
Horizons Regional Chiefs – Headstart / Backstop Process
Wellington Region Mayoral Forum
Waitāreere Beach Progressive Association AGM
Resident meeting

NZTA Regional Relationship meeting
Resident meeting
Wellington Regional Leadership Committee meeting
Coast Access Radio - Political Point of View interview with Penny Gaylor
Mayor   Chief Executive weekly meeting
Council meeting
Hearings Committee meeting
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs - Shannon Job Expo
Meeting with the Labour Party Candidate for Rangitikei, Karl Severinsen
Newstalk ZB - Interview - Access and Parking Strategy & Levin Town Centre
LGNZ briefing: Infometrics' Brad Olsen on the Budget
A35 meeting
Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Leadership Group: Post-Budget Hui & Fuel Situation Update
Betty Guy Memorial
Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee meeting
Regional Transport Committee meeting
Levin Town Centre Transformation Exhibition Walk-through
Council workshops
Future Fit Headstart – Levin Community No. 1
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs – monthly update
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs - Foxton Job Expo
Wellington Mayoral Forum
LGNZ – Ākona Advisory Group teams meeting
Volunteer Recognition Event 2026 in Palmerston North
LGNZ briefing: Simpson Grierson on Head Start advice
Central Districts Water – Project Oversight Group meeting
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs – update for Mayors
Horizons Region Mayoral Forum
LGNZ Briefing – regional council functions
Ratepayer meeting x2
Council workshops
Future Fit Headstart – Levin Community Session No. 2
Future Fit Headstart – Iwi Session with Te Tumatakahuki
Horowhenua Older Person's Network meeting
Cuppa with a Councillor
Sport Manawatū Regional Sports Awards

### **3. NATURE CALLS SUBMISSION**

Council has recently lodged a submission on Palmerston North City Council's Nature Calls project, a significant infrastructure and environmental initiative that will determine how wastewater is treated and discharged in the Manawatū catchment for decades to come. The submission was prepared jointly with the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board, reflecting the interests of communities in the lower Manawatū River catchment.

As a downstream territorial authority, Horowhenua District Council has a strong interest in the environmental outcomes of this project, particularly regarding water quality, ecosystem health, and the wellbeing of communities connected to the river. The submission outlines Council's position and advocates for decisions that support positive long-term outcomes for the wider catchment and future generations.

The submission is attached.

#### **ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">A↓</a>	HDC & Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - PNCC Nature Calls Submission Final - 28 May 2026	132



28 May 2026

Palmerston North City Council  
Private Bag 11034  
Palmerston North 4442

Email to: [submission@pncc.govt.nz](mailto:submission@pncc.govt.nz)

### **Submission on Nature Calls Project – Wastewater Treatment and Discharge Options**

Horowhenua District Council (HDC) and the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board (Community Board) appreciate the opportunity to provide a submission on Palmerston North City Council's (PNCC) Nature Calls project. This submission is made by HDC on behalf of the Horowhenua District and the Community Board who represent the community within the lower catchment of the Manawatū River.

We recognise that this project represents a significant environmental and financial decision for Palmerston North and the wider Manawatū catchment, as it will determine how wastewater is treated and discharged over the coming decades.

As a neighbouring territorial authority with communities located downstream in the Manawatū River catchment, HDC has a direct interest in the wastewater investment decision before PNCC and the environmental outcomes of the project - particularly in relation to downstream water quality, ecosystem health, and community wellbeing.

HDC and the Community Board support PNCC progressing a wastewater solution that materially improves wastewater treatment outcomes and improves the health and wellbeing of the awa. We have a proud history in Shannon, Foxton and Levin of enabling wastewater discharge to land, and our preference is for a wastewater solution that avoids or, at least, minimises, wastewater entering the Manawatū River. Council and the Community Board have been consistent in its position that discharging wastewater into the Manawatū River should be avoided. However, we acknowledge that none of the currently proposed options achieve this aspiration.

HDC and the Community Board recognise and share, the challenges that PNCC face, specifically:

- the need to secure a new wastewater discharge consent within current regulatory frameworks
- increasing community expectations for environmental outcomes and treatment standards
- the need to ensure the solution is affordable and financially sustainable, and
- the need for a pragmatic, affordable approach that can be implemented in the near term.

Accordingly, from a pragmatic perspective, we support the best remaining practical option to minimise impacts on the Manawatū River, being the option that achieves the highest level of treatment of discharged water. HDC and the Community Board, therefore, support the option which achieves the highest treatment and best quality outcomes for any discharges to water, along with an approach that seeks further improvements over the term of the consent.

Of the two options which PNCC is currently consulting on, we have a preference for Option 1. This is the option which results in less contaminants entering the Manawatū River, and which will result in less contaminants in the downstream reaches of the River and the RAMSAR internationally recognised Manawatū Estuary.

While both Option 1 and Option 2 are understood to be compliant with the Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards (WEPS), Option 2 achieves this with a lower treatment standard by relocating the discharge to a less sensitive downstream environment at certain times. While compliance is achieved, Option 2 is understood to result in a higher contaminant load than Option 1 for the stretch of the Manawatū River which passes through the Horowhenua District and to the sea.

HDC requests PNCC provide additional information to assist HDC and the Community Board to understand, and support its communities to understand:

- the implications of the options for the lower Manawatū River and the Estuary, including the relative contribution of the PNCC discharge to the total catchment loads
- the potential for additional treatment over the term of the consent, including the costs of implementing treatment improvements towards drinking water quality, or near-drinking water quality treated wastewater. The Community Board hold a position that if land discharge is not an option, then the wastewater should be treated to a potable water standard from the outset. Collectively we seek further information on the actual standard the wastewater will be treated to, including an understanding on what would be required to treat it to a potable standard
- Levels of emerging contaminants (including PFAS, phenols, estrogen's, pharmaceutical and other drugs) entering the River from the current discharge and the degree to which this will be improved under the options proposed. HDC recognises that the regulatory framework (i.e. the WEPS) does not yet regulate these contaminants. That notwithstanding, HDC is keen to understand the extent to which they are currently discharged and the degree to which the proposed treatment options may treat (reduce) these contaminants.

Further, we submit that in recognition of the iconic Manawatū Estuary designation as a RAMSAR site of national and international significance, along with the Foxton community's longstanding focus on the regeneration of the heath of Piriharakeke – the Manawatū River Loop, being the ultimate receiving environment for the PNCC wastewater discharge, the Adaptive Management Approach should include an ongoing annual funding commitment to support environmental and ecosystem health improvement in this area (Eg RAMSAR environmental groups, Iwi, SORT etc).

HDC and the Community Board wishes to thank PNCC for recognising its decision has a downstream impact on Horowhenua communities and for taking the time to meet with the community and seek feedback. We trust that PNCC will give due consideration to this feedback and we look forward to considering further information as the Nature Calls project progresses.

Yours sincerely,



Bernie Wanden  
**Mayor**  
**Horowhenua District Council**



Ross Brannigan  
**Chairperson**  
**Te Awahou Foxton Community Board**



File No.: 26/343

## 8.1 Organisation Performance Report - June 2026

Author(s)	Sue Fifita-Tovo <b>Executive Officer   Āpiha Mātāmua</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapori, Ratonga</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report presents the full Organisation Performance Report for June 2026.

### RECOMMENDATION NGĀ | TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council receive and note Report Organisation Performance Report - June 2026.

### BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. The Organisation Performance Report is presented to every second full Council meeting and provides a comprehensive overview of the activities undertaken across Council's six groups. The report also includes a financial overview as at 30 April 2026, along with reporting against the Statement of Service Performance (SSPs) and Organisation Performance Measures (OPMs).
3. The report aligns with Council's Top Priorities, adopted in December 2025 and remaining in effect until 31 December 2027, and provides an update on the progress and status of each priority.

### 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 <a href="#">↓</a>	Full Organisation Performance Report - 24 June 2026	136



**Horowhenua**   
DISTRICT COUNCIL

# Pūrongo Mahi ā-Whakahaere | Organisation Performance Report

24 June 2026



## Nā te Kaiwhakahaere Matua | Chief Executive Introduction

### About This Report

This full Organisation Performance Report report is prepared for every second full Council meeting and provides a comprehensive overview of the activities of each of the five groups within Council, a financial summary report and reporting against each of the Statement of Service Provisions (SSPs) and Organisation Performance Measures (OPMs).



The report aligns with the Council's Top Priorities and provides updates on the status of each of the three priority areas identified by Council at its December 2025 meeting.

The reporting period for Health and Safety and Group Updates: 1 March – 5 June 2026.

The reporting period for the Top Priorities – Going for Growth, Future Fit HDC and Financial Discipline: 11 April – 5 June 2026.

The financial reporting is year to 31 May 2026, and the SSP and OPM reporting is the year to 30 April 2026.

### Executive Summary

#### ***Community Experience and Services***

Community Experience and Services continued to deliver strong outcomes that support community wellbeing, connection and inclusion across the district. Through a diverse range of programmes, facilities and services, the Group maintained its focus on creating opportunities for residents of all ages to participate, learn and connect.

Significant investment in community assets was demonstrated through the completion of the Levin Aquatic Centre renewal programme, ensuring the long-term sustainability of one of the district's most valued recreational facilities. Innovation also featured strongly with the launch of the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Museum Tours App enhancing accessibility and visitor experiences through digital technology. Libraries, youth services and community programmes continued to evolve to meet changing community needs, with initiatives such as the new board game collection, Youth Week activities and collaborative waste minimisation programmes generating strong community engagement and positive outcomes.

Community Development activities strengthened social cohesion and local capability through funding support, community capacity-building initiatives, Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs employment and training pathways for rangatahi, and the establishment of the Horowhenua Community Safety Forum. Emergency management initiatives continued to build community resilience through partnership development and potential support for marae and community facilities.

### ***Community Infrastructure***

Community Infrastructure continued to deliver critical services and infrastructure that support the health, resilience and growth of Horowhenua. The Group maintained a strong focus on asset management, network reliability and strategic investment, while progressing a significant programme of renewals, upgrades and future planning activities across transport, water and waste services.

Across the transport network, ongoing rehabilitation, resurfacing, drainage and footpath renewal programmes continued. Strategic investment in roading infrastructure ensures the district's transport assets remain fit for purpose and capable of supporting community and economic activity. Within the waste activity, progress was made on key initiatives aimed at increasing waste diversion, and supporting future resource recovery opportunities. Continued growth in recycling volumes demonstrates positive community participation and progress towards waste minimisation objectives.

Significant progress was also achieved across the Local Waters activities. Major programmes including the district-wide water meter installation project, water treatment planning, wastewater network upgrades, and stormwater improvement works continue to strengthen the resilience and sustainability of essential infrastructure.

Overall, the Group continues to balance the delivery of day-to-day essential services with significant investment in long-term infrastructure resilience and environmental outcomes, whilst planning for transition to Central District Water by 1 July 2027.

### ***Community Vision and Delivery***

Core work progressed on the Levin Town Centre Transformation, Ōtaki to North Levin (Ō2NL), integrated growth planning, destination management and economic development, alongside preparation for the 2026/27 Annual Plan and the 2027 Long Term Plan. The Group is also supporting Council's response to local government reform – the Headstart | Backstop process which has evolved into Future Fit HDC engagement with the community.

Communications and Engagement activity remained central to enabling informed decision-making and maintaining strong community connection. The team supported consultation and public information across major initiatives including Future Fit | Headstart, the Solid Waste Bylaw, town centre transformation, parking and access changes, and wider financial sustainability discussions.

The Destination Management activity focused on strengthening Horowhenua's position as a year-round visitor destination, with targeted winter marketing campaigns, refreshed content development, and preparation of an updated Visitor Guide including expanded coverage of Waitāreke Beach. Regional collaboration continued with CEDA and Kāpiti Coast partners, supporting broader alignment of tourism initiatives.

In the Economic Development activity, through The Horowhenua Company Ltd, key progress included completion of the draft Levin Town Centre Retail Transformation Strategy to support business readiness ahead of Ō2NL, alongside sustained business engagement activity of over 350 interactions, 15 events, and six investment enquiries.

Overall, the Group has maintained a strong delivery focus across strategic priorities, with clear emphasis on enabling growth, supporting business confidence, strengthening community engagement, and positioning Horowhenua for long-term infrastructure-led transformation.

***Housing and Business Group***

The NZ Housing Market Overview which outlines the national housing and construction sector is showing early signs of stabilisation, with sentiment improving but remaining fragile. Business confidence has moved into mildly positive territory (+10), reflecting easing global uncertainty, although conditions remain sensitive to economic and policy shifts.

Residential construction is broadly stable, with consent volumes holding up but showing a shift toward smaller or lower-spec developments, as reflected in declining overall value and floor area. A modest uplift in residential building activity is forecast in the short term, supporting a steady pipeline of standard consent applications, although regional performance remains uneven.

In contrast, the non-residential sector remains structurally weak, with ongoing declines in commercial activity and only marginal short-term recovery expected. Complex commercial consents requiring higher levels of engineering and compliance input are becoming less frequent.

At a regional level, activity is highly variable, with some areas maintaining strong pipelines while others remain subdued, reinforcing the need for targeted capacity planning rather than uniform resourcing approaches.

Overall, the sector is transitioning from prolonged downturn conditions toward a period of fragile stability. Residential activity is holding steady, non-residential work remains soft, and interest rate settings remain the dominant factor shaping near-term risk and confidence.

The group continues to be engaging proactively with the development community, including regular reporting through Build Horowhenua, and ongoing process improvements across both building and resource consenting functions. While resourcing constraints and legacy application backlogs continue to create pressure in parts of the system, overall performance remains stable with a continued focus on efficiency and compliance.

***Capability and Transformation Group***

During the reporting period, significant progress was made across key capability, resilience, and risk management initiatives. The annual review of the Business Continuity Plan is underway, with teams updating and aligning response strategies to ensure Council remains prepared to respond effectively to disruptions and maintain critical services to the community.

The Risk and Assurance Committee endorsed the draft Risk Appetite Statements, which will be presented to Council for adoption in June. Once implemented, these statements will

provide clear guidance for decision-making, support consistent risk management practices, and strengthen organisational resilience.

I hope you find this report informative and valuable. It provides an opportunity to stay abreast of the wide range of activities taking place across Council and the progress being made towards our strategic objectives. Thank you for taking an interest in the work we do and for taking the time to engage with the information presented in this report. Your interest and involvement help strengthen our connection with the community we serve.



Monique Davidson  
**Chief Executive**

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## Pūrongo mō te Hauora me te Haumarū | Health and Safety Report

A focus for the Safety and Wellbeing Team has been safety support for the Levin Aquatic Centre maintenance programme shutdown ensuring it progressed safely and according to plan. During the closedown period, the Safety and Wellbeing Team also supported the Aquatics Manager with two safety focused site tours for Elected Members and the Leadership Team, as well as Komiti Oranga Health and Safety Representatives (HSRs).

The tours provided attendees with insights into the scope and progress of the maintenance programme, while also highlighting the robust health and safety controls being implemented across the site. Given the complexity of the environment, with multiple contractors, concurrent workstreams, and a range of operational hazards, strong coordination and risk management processes were essential.

Attendees observed how risks were being actively identified, assessed, and controlled through practical measures including contractor management, controlled access zones, permit systems, signage and regular safety monitoring. The site visits demonstrated a proactive approach to hazard management and reinforced the organisation's commitment to maintaining a safe working environment throughout the shutdown period.

The maintenance shutdown reinforced the value of strong collaboration and shared accountability across all parties involved. Effective communication and proactive engagement supported the timely identification and management of risks, enabling informed decision-making and responsive safety controls as work progressed. This coordinated approach helped ensure safety considerations remained integrated throughout the programme and contributed to the successful delivery of the shutdown while maintaining a safe environment for workers and visitors.



## Ngā Whakahōutanga a te Rōpū | Group Updates

### Introduction

There are six groups within the Council:

- Community Experience and Service
- Community Infrastructure
- Community Vision and Delivery
- Housing and Business Development
- Capability and Transformation
- Organisation Performance - Finance.

Each group has provided a general update in this report and in addition, relevant activity updates, and Finance has provided an update in the financial section of the report.

### Ngā Taiwhanga ā-Rēhia me ngā Ratonga Community Experience and Services

#### Ngā Taiwhanga ā-Rēiha Community Facilities Activity

##### What we are delivering

##### Levin Aquatic Centre gets an upgrade

The Levin Aquatic Centre has reopened following a significant programme of maintenance and renewal works designed to ensure the facility remains safe, reliable and fit for purpose well into the future. While visitors will immediately notice the fresh new flooring, upgraded pool liners and brighter appearance, much of the work took place behind the scenes, including upgrades to pool tanks, membranes, filtration and heating systems, circulating pumps, tiling, grouting and critical water infrastructure. The project represented a substantial investment in one of Horowhenua's most well-used community facilities and reflects Council's commitment to maintaining quality recreation assets that support health, wellbeing and community connection. The work was expertly coordinated by our Aquatics Manager, whose planning, technical expertise and project management ensured the programme was delivered safely, within timeframe and budget. Early feedback from users has been overwhelmingly positive, with aquacise participants among the first to enjoy the refreshed facility and comment on the improved look and feel.

##### Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Museum Tours App

Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom recently participated in the regional Heritage Festival, welcoming visitors as part of a day focused on exploring sites of significance throughout the Foxton-Te Awahou community. A highlight of the event was the public launch of the

new Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom Museum Tours App, which was used by visitors to independently explore the facility and its exhibitions. The app provides a self-guided experience, allowing visitors to access information, stories and points of interest at their own pace, enhancing accessibility and reducing the need for immediate staff accompaniment throughout the facility.

The introduction of the app represents an important step forward in improving the visitor experience and making the rich stories of Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom more accessible to a wider audience. This initiative has been in development for some time, making it particularly rewarding to see it successfully launched and being actively used by visitors.

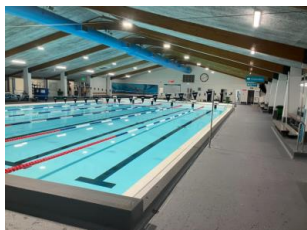
Interest has also extended beyond the facility itself, with the Foxton Futures Governance Group receiving a demonstration of the app and expressing interest in exploring how similar technology could support other heritage, cultural and visitor experiences across Foxton. The project highlights how digital innovation can enhance storytelling, improve visitor access and create new opportunities to showcase the unique history and identity of our district.

### **Waste Minimisation at the Library**

This year's LOL (Lots of Laughs) School Holiday Programme demonstrated how Council services can work together to deliver multiple community outcomes through a single initiative. By incorporating waste minimisation themes into library programming, the Libraries and Waste Minimisation Teams combined their expertise to create engaging activities that promoted both literacy and environmental awareness.

Using recycled and repurposed materials, participants took part in activities such as sock puppets, joke jars, fake spill pranks and junk journaling, learning about creativity, resourcefulness and waste reduction along the way. The Junk Journal workshops proved particularly successful, with one family reporting they continued the activity throughout the holidays and established a dedicated space at home for reusable materials. The programme also helped strengthen wider community connections, with the EnviroSchools Coordinator attending a session and exploring opportunities for future collaboration with the facilitator.

This is a great example of Council delivering double duty outcomes, where services come together to support learning, sustainability and community wellbeing while maximising the value of existing programmes and resources.



Levin Aquatic Centre project completed.



Installation of new pool liner



Junk journaling at the library

### **Board Game collection a new addition to Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō**

A new board game collection launched at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō this month has proven an immediate hit with the community. Since the launch, 36 issues have been recorded, with only 11 games currently available on the shelves, highlighting strong demand for the initiative. While libraries are traditionally associated with books and literacy, they also play an important role in fostering social connection, lifelong learning and community wellbeing.

Board games provide an accessible and affordable way for families and friends to spend time together, encourage intergenerational interaction, develop problem-solving and communication skills, and offer a screen-free recreation option that can be enjoyed by people of all ages. The collection also helps remove barriers to participation by providing access to games that some households may not otherwise be able to afford. Delivered as a one-year trial, the initiative reflects the evolving role of libraries as shared community spaces that support connection, inclusion and belonging. Early signs suggest the collection is meeting a genuine community need and has strong potential to become a valued part of the library service.

### **Youth Week a hit for local rangatahi**

The Youth Programmes Team recently celebrated Youth Week alongside rangatahi from across Horowhenua, delivering a week of activities designed to connect, inspire and celebrate young people. Held at the Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō Youth Space, the programme featured a diverse range of activities including a Rangatahi Concert showcasing talented local performers and a Slamming Sumo Wrestling session led by Filippo Tovia, a two-time Oceania champion.

The week embraced the national Youth Week theme, "Our Voices Matter: We Deserve to be Heard / Taringa Whakarongo Te Reo o Ngā Taiohe", creating opportunities for young people to be seen, heard and recognised for their contributions. Beyond activating the Youth Space, the programme strengthened connections between rangatahi, community organisations, local role models and potential future pathways. Councillor Alan Young's involvement, both as Chair of the Youth Network and through his connection to local tennis, further demonstrated the collective effort across Council and the community to create meaningful opportunities for young people to participate, connect and thrive.



Youth Week Tennis with Councillor Young



Board Games at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō



Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom App promotional material

## Te Tautāwhi I te Hapori Community Support Activity

### What we are delivering

#### Neighbours Day

Neighbours Day was held on 14 March 2026 at the Levin Adventure Park. This event is hosted by Horowhenua Neighbourhood Support with support from Horowhenua District Council. Activities included entertainment, a free BBQ, face painting, bouncy castles, and information stalls from a range of local community groups. The event is a key initiative within the Community Wellbeing Action Plan, supporting the goal of fostering a connected and inclusive community.

#### Council Facilitated Funds

The Community Funding and Recognition Committee met on 25 March 2026 to allocate funding through the following grant programmes:

- Community Events and Programmes Fund
- Urupā Whānau Maintenance Fund
- Youth Empowerment Fund.

A total of \$44,056 was distributed across the three funds. Of this, \$40,556 was allocated to 18 community groups and organisations to support the delivery of local community events and programmes.

#### Funding Expo

On 14 May 2026, Horowhenua District Council hosted a Grants and Funding Workshop for community groups and organisations across Horowhenua. A total of 52 participants attended breakout sessions covering funding application writing, financial requirements and accountability reporting.

The workshop provided practical support to increase understanding of funding processes and created opportunities for participants to connect directly with funders operating within the district. Participating funders included Sport Manawatū, the Department of Internal Affairs, Eastern and Central Community Trust, Thomas McCarthy Trust, the Capability and Capacity Building Fund, and Horowhenua District Council.

Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with attendees reporting increased confidence in applying for grants, meeting accountability requirements, and seeking support when needed. Participants particularly valued the practical nature of the sessions and the opportunity to engage directly with funders. A key suggestion for future workshops was to allow additional time for participants to attend all breakout sessions and continue conversations with funders.



### **Welcoming Communities**

The Horowhenua Welcoming Communities Programme was nominated to the Taituarā - Local Government Awards in the Placemaking category and was named a finalist in the Member's Choice Award. The entry highlighted the sense of place and belonging experienced by former refugee whānau through the warm welcome and housing blessings they receive upon arrival in Horowhenua, as well as the work of two former refugee community members in building trust and strengthening belonging within the refugee community, including supporting participation in voting for the first time in the local election. The winner of the Member's Choice Award will be announced on the 18 June 2026.

### **Community Safety Forum**

At the Community Wellbeing Committee meeting on 27 May, stakeholders endorsed the establishment of the Horowhenua Community Safety Forum. The Community Safety Forum will meet bi-annually. The main purpose is to bring safety agencies, organisations and community groups into one forum to encourage collaboration and coordinated responses as well as strengthen collective understanding of emerging safety issues, priorities and local needs.

Councillor Mitchell-Kouttab was appointed the chair, with the first forum scheduled to take place in July/August 2026. The establishment the Community Safety Forum is a key action within the Community Wellbeing Strategy Action Plan, ensuring that Horowhenua is a safe, vibrant, inclusive and connected community.

### **Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ)**

The MTFJ programme has achieved 26 placements into employment at the time of writing this report.

The MTFJ Mahi Caravan kaupapa continues to support rangatahi through a range of training and educational opportunities. During the reporting period, programmes delivered included gym sessions, an entrepreneurial online presentation, a two-day retail and

hospitality course, a two-day barista and food safety course, NZ first aid certificate training, forklift licensing, driving lessons and a traffic management course.

On 16–17 March 2026, MTFJ hosted The King's Trust Aotearoa New Zealand. This free two-day workshop for young people aged 15–30 supported aspiring entrepreneurs to develop business plans, build financial management skills, and explore pathways to launching their own businesses. Participants also had access to mentoring, networking opportunities, and the ability to apply for seed funding to help bring their business ideas to life. A total of 14 local rangatahi attended the workshop, gaining access to a 10-week mentoring programme to further progress their business ideas thereafter.

MTFJ partnered with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) to deliver two Job and Training Expos in Shannon and Foxton. The expos were held on 28 May in Shannon and 4 June in Foxton, bringing together local employers, training providers, recruitment advisors, and work-readiness programmes under one roof to connect job seekers with employment and training opportunities.



*Foxton Job and Training Expo*

### **Older Persons Network – Leading Digital Harm Education**

The Older Persons Network continues to play an important leadership role in identifying emerging issues affecting older residents and connecting organisations with the expertise needed to respond.

At a recent meeting, members highlighted the growing impact of online scams, digital exploitation, and online harm on vulnerable members of the community. The discussion recognised the valuable work being undertaken by Horowhenua Libraries to improve digital literacy and online safety.

As a result, HALT (Horowhenua Abuse Liaison Trust) invited Library staff to undergo training for frontline workers, helping them recognise the signs of online scams and better support clients to navigate the digital world safely.

This collaboration demonstrates how Community Development and Libraries are working together to strengthen community resilience. By building digital literacy skills and

increasing awareness of online risks, Council is helping create a safer, more informed, and better-connected community.

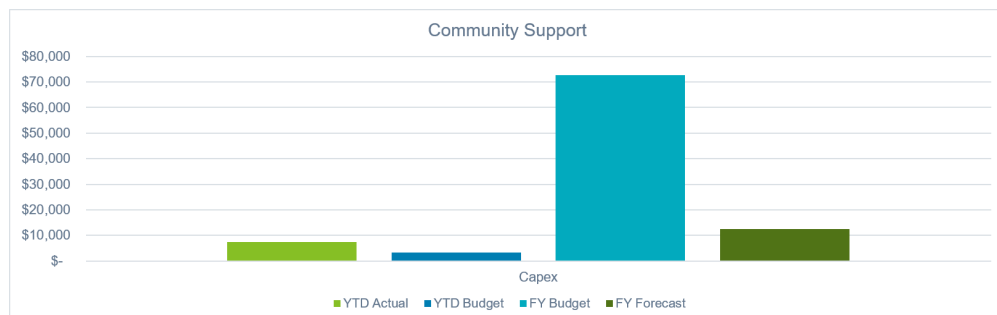
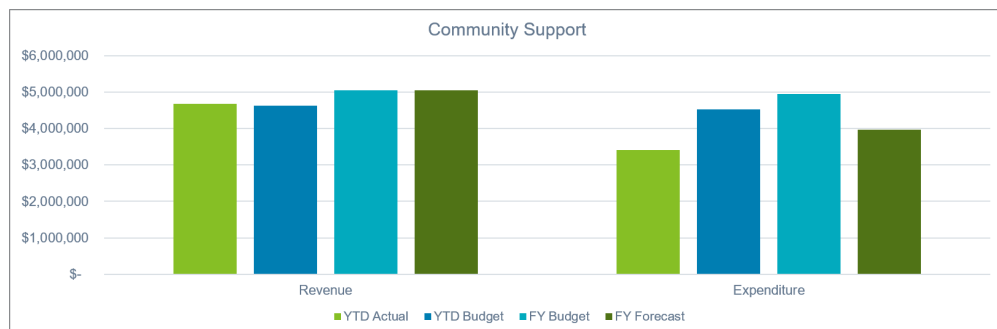
**Emergency Management**

Emergency Management work has continued to focus on strengthening community preparedness, resilience and response capability across the district. During the period, officers have progressed fuel supply disruption contingency planning, worked closely with holiday park operators to improve emergency preparedness arrangements, and continued to build strong relationships with key community partners and response agencies.

Good progress has been made on developing emergency planning guidance for holiday parks, with site visits completed and draft plans prepared for the majority of operators. Work has also continued on the EECA Whakamana Marae resilience programme, with ongoing engagement with marae, community facilities, EECA, Electra and external funding partners to progress funding applications, site assessments and project planning.

Alongside this, officers have remained actively involved in regional emergency management forums, training and exercising programmes, and have contributed to a number of resilience initiatives including the refresh of tsunami evacuation signage across coastal communities. This work continues to ensure Horowhenua is well positioned to respond to and recover from emergency events while strengthening relationships and preparedness across the district.

**Financial**



YTD unbudgeted funding was received from Eastern & Central Community Trust (ECCT) and Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) to support Mana Kai initiative.

Lower expenditure as expected from operational savings identified within the activity.

## Ngā Rawa Property Activity

### General Update

Council continues to focus on ensuring its property assets remain safe, functional and fit for purpose for both community and operational use. Officers are working with existing leaseholders to review lease arrangements across the portfolio to ensure Council properties remain appropriately utilised, managed and aligned with future strategic opportunities and community outcomes.

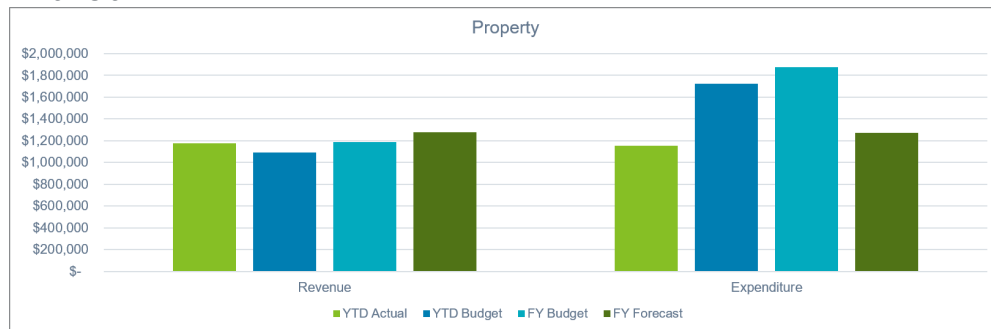
The Parks and Property Team has also continued to strengthen collaboration and service delivery across Council activities. This includes supporting staff training and cross-functional support during the Levin Aquatics Centre renewal closure, progressing improvements to Council's GIS property and asset information systems, and working alongside other Council teams and external organisations to share learnings and improve responses to community challenges such as homelessness, waste minimisation and public space management.

### What we are delivering

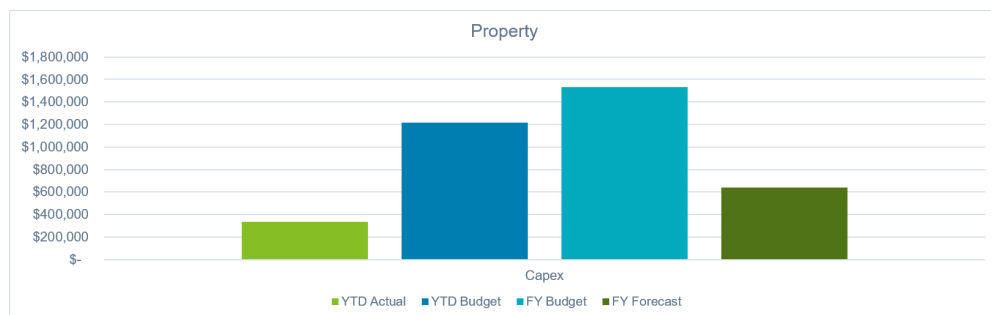
The Property activity has continued to focus on maintaining Council's building assets, improving asset information systems, and identifying opportunities to strengthen the performance of the property portfolio. During the reporting period, officers worked alongside the Property Group to undertake an initial review of Council's leases and grazing licences, identifying opportunities to improve consistency, management practices, and future revenue performance across the portfolio. Next steps will include a council workshop on potential options and reviewing policies to support increases in revenue where appropriate.

Work has commenced on the Civic Building renewal programme, with scaffolding and site establishment underway during the reporting period. The works include repairs and renewal of roof areas and balconies that are no longer fully weathertight, alongside remediation of internal areas affected by water ingress, particularly around publicly accessible spaces. These renewal works are aimed at protecting and extending the life of a significant ratepayer asset, while improving the safety, functionality and long-term resilience of the building and reducing the risk of further deterioration.

**Financial**



Savings identified in professional services costs for Property Disposal Programme.



Capital spend YTD continues to be below budget but is forecasted to continue to increase in June.

**Tūāhanga Hapori**  
**Community Infrastructure Activity**

**General Update**

Community Infrastructure has continued to focus on maintaining safe, welcoming and high-performing parks, reserves, sports grounds and public spaces across the district. Forestry works are now underway at Target Reserve and Cousins Avenue Reserve following significant storm events earlier in the year, which left a large number of trees windthrown and unstable, creating ongoing health and safety risks for reserve users. Most of the urgent works at Target Reserve were completed during this reporting period, with works staged to prioritise the highest risk areas first before moving to Cousins Avenue Reserve.

Council also supported a range of community and sporting events during the period, including ANZAC Day commemorations, junior winter sport set ups, regional cricket tournaments, and ongoing beautification and garden enhancement programmes across the district. This work was also recognised nationally, with Green by Nature Operations Manager Evan Hicks presenting at the Green Pavlova Conference on Horowhenua’s

approach to delivering high-quality turf and community spaces in a practical and cost-effective way.

The activity continues to experience increasing pressure from illegal dumping and flytipping across berms, reserves and public spaces. The Open Spaces Maintenance Team is currently responding to an average of four flytipping callouts per week, excluding household rubbish bags left beside public litter bins. This increase in illegal dumping is placing additional pressure on operational budgets and staff resources, with the activity currently forecasting an approximate \$100,000 overspend for the financial year.

At the beginning of June, the Parks and Property Team also welcomed the Waste Minimisation Officer role into the activity, strengthening opportunities for collaboration across community engagement, environmental stewardship, education, and the management of public spaces throughout the district.

### What we are delivering

Winter sports fields were prepared ahead of the season, including significant turf reinstatement works at Donnelly Park, with local clubs and regional sporting organisations providing positive feedback on the quality of the facilities and level of service provided. These high-quality grounds continue to support increased tournaments and competitions being hosted in Horowhenua, bringing more visitors into the district over the summer and winter sporting seasons.

Officers and our Open Spaces Maintenance Team has also continued to focus on the presentation and usability of public spaces across the district. This included seasonal garden renewals and beautification works within town centres, preparation of memorial sites and cemeteries ahead of ANZAC Day commemorations, and ongoing playground inspections and maintenance programmes to ensure facilities remain safe and welcoming for families and visitors.

Following community feedback regarding the appearance of the Levin Adventure Park toilet floors, after-hours maintenance works were undertaken to strip and reseal the flooring, helping restore the presentation of one of the district's most highly visited recreational facilities and improve the experience for users and visitors.

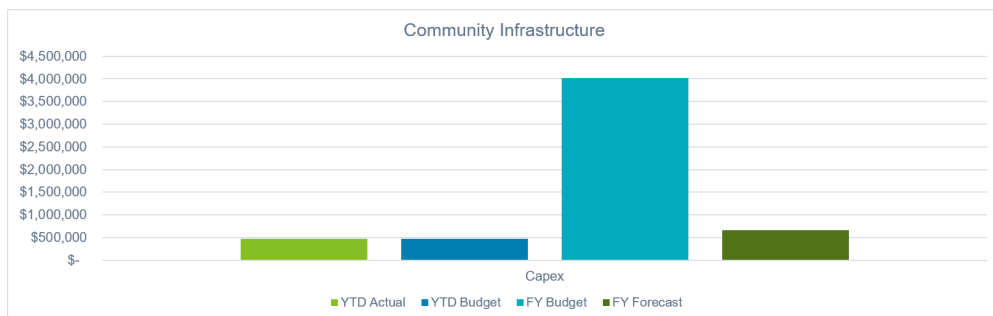
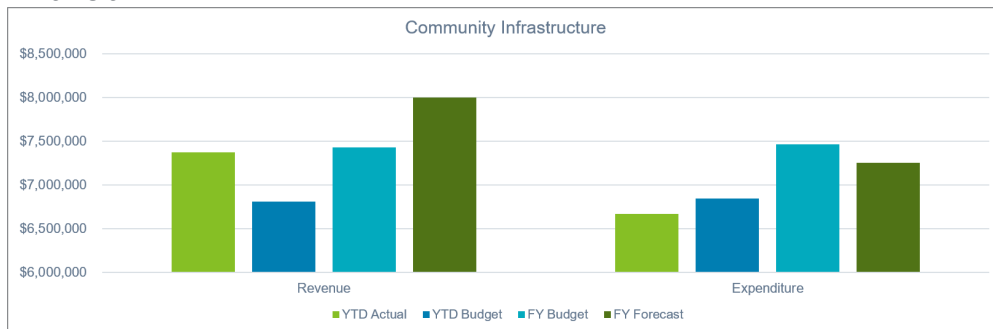


*Evan Hicks presenting at Green Pavlova, alongside Visitor Solution's Andy Adams.*



*Windthrown trees at Cousins Avenue Reserve, Foxton Beach*

### Financial



Capital spend YTD is below budget but is forecasted to increase in June.

## Tūāhanga Hapori Community Infrastructure

### Land Transport

#### General update

The Roading Team has continued to focus on delivering a range of maintenance and renewal activities across the district. A significant portion of recent work has involved footpath and drainage improvements aimed at enhancing safety, accessibility and network resilience.

Notable projects completed or underway include the Dorset Street Footpath Renewal, which has improved pedestrian accessibility and asset condition and drainage improvement works in Thomas Place to address stormwater management and reduce the risk of localised flooding.

Asphalt road resurfacing has been completed outside Crighton's on Hokio Beach Road, improving ride quality and extending the service life of this section of road.

#### What we are delivering

##### Rehabilitation Programme

The rehabilitation programme continues to progress well, with several key projects now completed or nearing completion.

Rehabilitation works on CD Farm Road and Whirokino Road have been successfully completed, improving pavement condition, ride quality and the long term resilience of these routes.

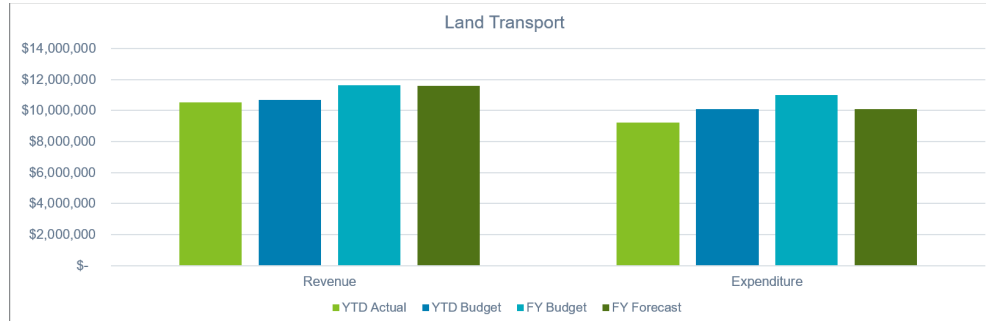
Works on Bruce Road are well underway and include both pavement rehabilitation and road widening to improve safety and network performance. Construction is progressing as planned, with completion expected by the end of June.

These projects form part of Council's ongoing investment in maintaining and renewing the transport network, ensuring roads remain safe, reliable and fit for purpose for all users.

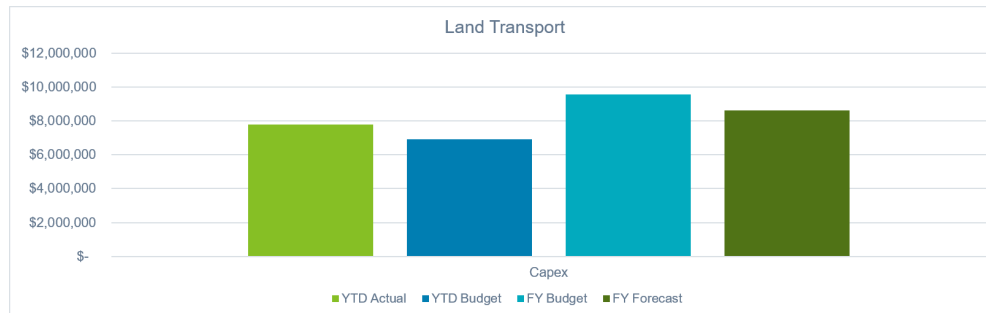
Current delivery activities include:

- Footpath renewal and maintenance programmes across the district
- Drainage improvements to address known stormwater issues and improve network performance
- Pavement resurfacing and rehabilitation works to maintain road condition and safety
- Ongoing responses to customer requests and asset maintenance requirements
- Preparation and planning for the upcoming summer renewal and maintenance programmes.

**Financial**



Expenditure remains generally in line with budget allocations, with ongoing monitoring of programme delivery and project costs. Recent investment has been directed towards footpath renewals, drainage improvements, resurfacing works and rehabilitation activities.



Capital projects for this activity relate to parking meters and dog pound. Capital spend commenced over December 2025 and January 2026 and is forecasted to increase in June.

**Solid Waste**

**Waste Collector Licensing**

The license will ensure that waste collection quality and safety standards are met along with a monthly submission of waste tonnages to landfill. When this information is uploaded and amalgamated, Council officers will be closer to understanding what the per capita district’s waste diversion from going to landfill is.

**Levin Landfill - New Consent Application**

A draft revision of the Levin Landfill consent conditions has been prepared. As community groups requested early involvement in the review process, the draft revisions, along with a summary document, will be circulated to these groups prior to lodging a consent application with Horizons.

To support understanding of the various interrelated components of the consent conditions, a landfill site visit was also held in February. The Neighbourhood Liaison Group (NLG) has had the opportunity at a meeting in March to be informed of the proposed changes to the Landfill resource conditions. A final opportunity to contribute to the new consent conditions will be provided to community groups before the final application is lodged with Horizons.

### Levin Landfill - Advanced Monitoring Framework (AMF)

Instead of relying on computer modelling to understand what is occurring in the landfill groundwater flowing towards the Hōkio Stream, additional ground water bores are to be installed along with continuous data loggers. This additional monitoring will record the rise and fall of various landfill leachate indicators in real time. The application for a resource consent to install these additional ground water bores has been made with Horizons Regional Council.

To assist with the remediation of the contaminated groundwater, Council approved the purchase of the area immediately in front of the northern landfill boundary. This additional land will in the future allow the present wetland to be extended and provide an enhanced ecological environment for the betterment of the affected area.

See below the location of additional groundwater bores.



Figure 1 Green dots are additional bores, yellow dots are provisional bores

### **Resource Recovery Centre (RRC) – Preliminary Investigations**

It is estimated that 69% of New Zealand's waste to landfill is comprised of construction and demolition (C+D) waste. To increase the volume of waste diverted from the landfill in our district, Council officers are investigating the feasibility of using a council owned site as a resource recovery facility. Cost analysis has been undertaken to determine the required capital investment to ready a site to receive such waste. Various revenue streams have also been investigated to offset operational costs. Expected waste quantities have been factored into the modelling to see how the waste diversion will grow over time. The setting of appropriate fees and charges to encourage waste diversion at the RRC will be key to achieving the desired waste diversion outcomes. The RRC fees need to be at a percentage lower than the regular transfer station gate charges. If the pricing is not attractive for waste diversion, then the project will not gain momentum.

Officers updated Council on the viability of this project at a workshop in June and seek their recommendation to proceed further with funding applications.

### **Landfill Leachate Pump Replacement**

The replacement pump once installed will lift and pump the landfill leachate up to another pump located at a higher elevation. From this higher elevation, the leachate is pumped to the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant. The new pump will be positioned in a location that will allow much easier service and repairs than the previous installation. This upgrade will be completed by the end of the financial year.



*Leachate pump riser*

### What we are diverting from landfill

When it comes to diverting waste from going to the landfill, outside of used clothing stores, scrap metal dealers and paper and cardboard collectors, the Council is a district leader when it comes to the diversion of municipal waste.

Last year the Council kerbside collection, rural recycling centres and transfer stations diverted 1,686 tonnes of comingle (tins, aluminum cans, paper, plastics) and glass bottles. So far this year, we have diverted to recycling 1,610 tonnes of municipal waste. For the same time last year, this is presently 12% more tonnes diverted.

All this waste is given a second life. Glass bottles are remelted in Auckland to be made into more glass bottles. The paper is exported overseas to pulp and paper mills. Plastics containers are remade into a variety of lower value products; metals are sent overseas to be re-smelted into sheet aluminum and sheet can material.

### Issues and Risks

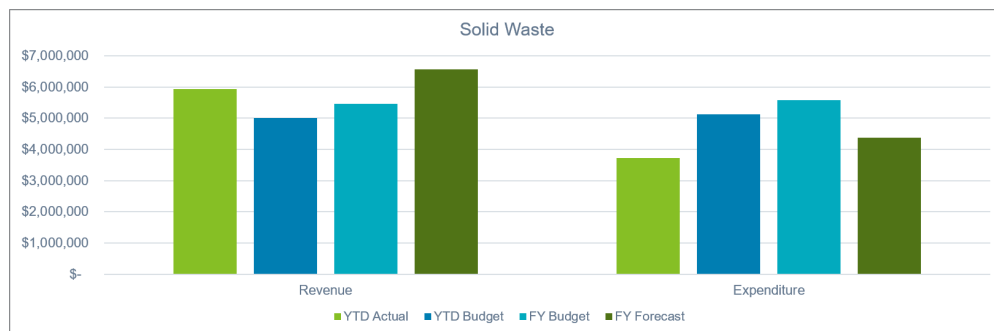
#### Waste Collectors Licencing.

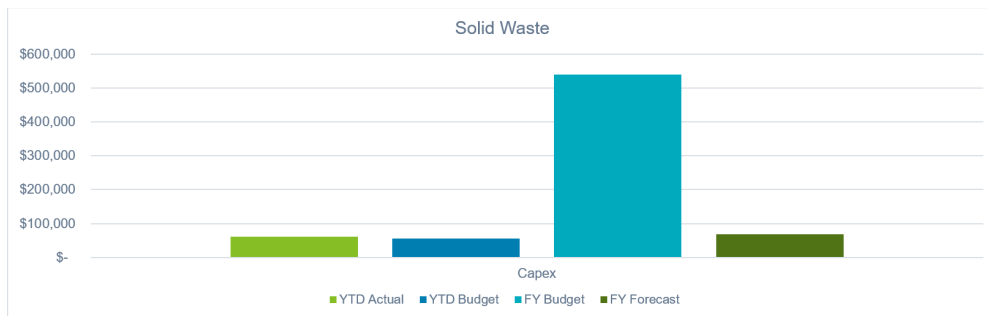
There is a risk that some waste collectors would not sign up to the waste collectors' licencing requirements.

This risk has been managed by inviting all the district waste collectors to participate in the setting of the conditions. It is hoped this consultation and engagement will lead to the full support and participation of all the district waste collectors in the licencing process.

### Financial

Revenue is ahead of budget due to Solid Waste Recycling rebates being higher than budgeted which includes \$453k that was carried forward from the 2024/25 financial year. Identified savings in contracts continue to be realised.





## Local Waters Service Delivery

### Drinking Water Treatment and Supply

#### What we are delivering

##### Levin Water Treatment Plant upgrades

##### LWTP Masterplan update

Officers are working with Lutra to update the LWTP Master Plan, incorporating work completed to date and evaluating the implications of a future dual-source water supply system comprising both river and reservoir sources. The update will assess treatment and operational requirements associated with managing multiple water sources and will guide future investment decisions, including the timing of treatment upgrades, staged renewals, capacity improvements, and any long-term treatment plant replacement requirements to ensure a resilient and sustainable water supply network.

##### Filter Refurbishments

As part of the council's ongoing treatment plant renewals programme, we are progressing with the planned refurbishment of the remaining steel filters 7, 8 & 10 identified at the Levin water treatment plant. These works are committed, but due to the timing of procurement physical works are now scheduled to commence in July 2026. This will require the budget to be carried forward.

##### Clarifier Bypass and UV Installation

Council is progressing with the planned Clarifier bypass and stand-by UV installation works at the Levin water treatment plant this calendar year. Procurement activities are underway, with the tender evaluation and contract being issued in June. Physical works are now programmed to commence in July 2026. This will require the budget to be carried forward and some additional funding approved from Council at 24 June meeting.

##### New Treated Water Reservoir

Site investigations and planning activities have continued to support consenting and procurement approval processes for the construction of a new treated water reservoir at the Levin Water Treatment Plant. A concept design has been received, with ongoing

geotechnical and site investigations helping to inform the final reservoir location, design development, and consenting pathway. The new reservoir will improve treated water storage capacity and network resilience, while supporting future operational and asset management requirements.

#### **Levin Water Supply/ Poads Road Reservoir Consent**

Following ongoing engagement with submitters and iwi partners to address matters raised in submissions, and after a number of extensions, Council is required to report back to the pre-hearing facilitator at the end of June. Officers are seeking a Council decision on the preferred consenting pathway for the resource consent and Notice of Requirement applications. Further reporting will be provided following Council's decision on the preferred pathway, including engagement with CDW as part of the transition to the new water services entity.

#### **Foxton and Foxton Beach Water Treatment Masterplan**

Council is progressing the development of a new Water Supply Master Plan for Foxton and Foxton Beach to help guide future investment in the communities' drinking water infrastructure. The work will provide a comprehensive assessment of the existing water supply networks, including how well they are performing today, their ability to meet future growth, and what improvements may be needed to enhance resilience and meet future regulatory requirements.

Key activities include assessing current and future water demand, reviewing the condition and performance of existing infrastructure, identifying opportunities to improve network resilience and reliability, and evaluating options for future investment. The project will also develop a prioritised capital works programme and long-term funding recommendations to support future planning.

The resulting master plan will provide a strategic roadmap for the future of the Foxton and Foxton Beach water supplies, helping ensure safe, reliable and sustainable drinking water services for current and future residents.

#### **District-Wide Water Meter Programme**

Council's district-wide water meter programme is nearing completion, with residential meter installations, manifold maintenance, and reinstatement works substantially complete. Final quality assurance checks are now underway across the district. Ground-penetrating radar investigations have been completed, with final physical investigations continuing in Levin to address a small number of outstanding installations and site-specific issues.

To date, 13,192 water meters have been installed across the district, with approximately 244 remaining. The programme has incurred capital expenditure of \$6.35 million against a total approved budget of \$6.78 million.

Planning is also progressing for the installation of bulk and non-standard (commercial) meters, including investigations to ensure appropriate backflow protection and regulatory compliance. This next phase of the programme is expected to commence in the new

financial year, subject to final decisions on the bulk meter installation approach and approval of the required budget.

Once complete, the water metering programme will provide improved understanding of water use across the district, support more efficient management of water resources, and help identify leaks and reduce water loss within the network.

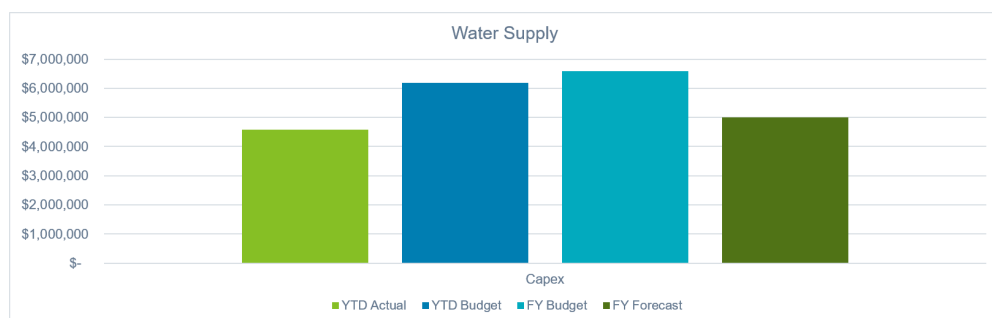
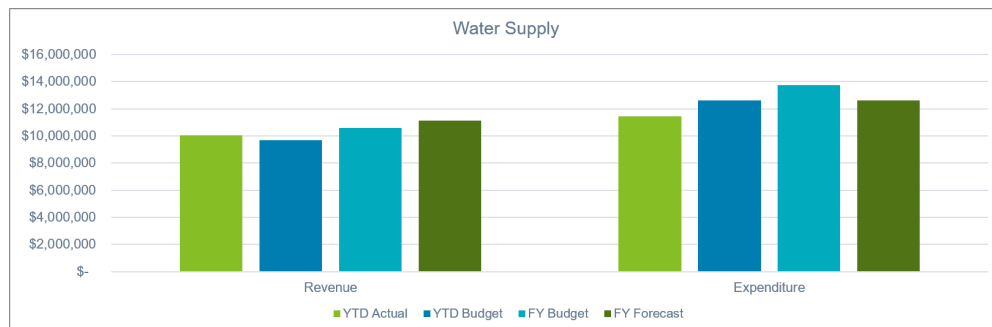
**Power Resilience – FWTP and SWTP Generators**

Council is progressing resilience improvements at key water supply sites through the installation of stand-by generators to help maintain water services during power outages and emergency events. This includes replacing the existing generator at the Foxton Water Treatment Plant and installing a new generator to support the Shannon water supply scheme.

Site investigations and design activities have been completed for the Foxton Water Treatment Plant generator, with approvals and construction planning progressing. For the Shannon scheme, assessment of generator location options is underway to determine the most effective and practical long-term solution. The generators have been procured, and contractor engagement for installation works is currently in progress.

**Financial**

There is an operational overspend due to increased materials costs (chemicals and sand), some resulting from recent weather events. Additional costs have also been incurred through compliance fees, staff training, and software licensing, including additional CAD and modelling licences required for new staff members.



Water Supply YTD actual spend is approximately \$4.5m against a full year budget of \$6.6m. Full-year forecast expenditure is \$5m, which is around \$1.6m below budget. This reflects timing delays and carry forwards across a number of programmes, with approximately \$430k remaining spend expected to be delivered before year end.

## Wastewater Treatment and Supply

### What we are delivering

#### Queen Street Wastewater Connection (Tara-Ika)

Council is progressing construction of a new wastewater main through the Ō2NL corridor to service the central Tara-Ika catchment, including the future school site and surrounding growth areas. This infrastructure is a key component of enabling future development within Tara-Ika.

Construction is underway, with work to date including pipe welding and trench excavation. The project involves installation of approximately 650 metres of wastewater pipeline and five new manholes. Works are progressing well and remain on track for completion by mid-2026.



Queen Street WW pipe welding



Queen Street WW pipe lengths after welding completed



## **Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades**

### **Levin WWTP Delivery Plan**

Council has engaged Lutra to update the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Masterplan to confirm future design criteria and develop a staged delivery and investment strategy for upcoming plant upgrades. This work will help prepare for the introduction of the National Wastewater Environmental Standards and support planning associated with the future transfer of water services to Central District Water (CDW). The updated masterplan builds on significant technical work completed since the previous revision in 2023.

The updated delivery plan will provide a strategic roadmap for future investment, inform long-term capital expenditure planning and establish a high-level programme for project delivery.

### **LWWTP Inlet pipe, sewer bulkmain**

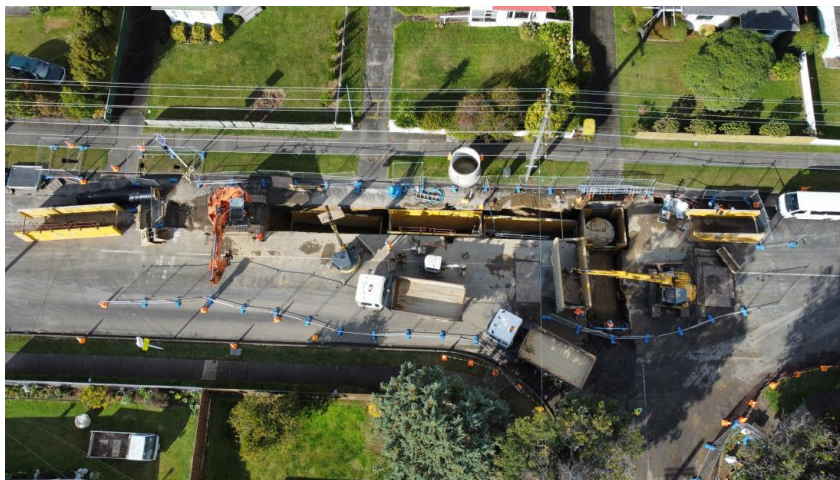
The Stage 2 Levin Wastewater Upgrade works being delivered by CCL have continued to progress well. These works are an important investment in strengthening the town's wastewater network and supporting future growth.

Since commencing works, CCL has installed approximately 600m of new 900mm bulk wastewater main, the crew is now working along Trio Tiro Road. Progress during May saw a further 81 metres of wastewater main installed, with nearly 99 metres forecast to be completed during June. By the end of June, approximately 734 metres of the total 840 metres of wastewater main is expected to be complete, representing the majority of the wastewater construction works.

As construction has progressed, Council has taken the opportunity to complete additional infrastructure improvements while the road corridor is already open. This includes around

310 metres of watermain renewal along Tiro Tiro Road, helping to improve the resilience of the water network and reducing the need for future excavation. Additional wastewater works have also been added to support future network connections and operational flexibility, including new manholes and sections of wastewater pipeline.

The construction programme has been extended to reflect the additional scope added during delivery, variation works, and supply chain constraints affecting pipe procurement. As a result, Stage 2 works are currently forecast to be completed by late August 2026, compared with the original target completion date of late June 2026. The additional time allows the expanded scope of works to be delivered while maximising the value of the current construction programme and reducing the need for future excavation within the corridor.



*Sewer bulkmain works Tiro Tiro Road Levin*

### **Headworks**

Procurement for the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant Headworks Upgrade has progressed, with the tender process closing in April and two submissions received. Tender evaluations have been completed and clarification discussions are currently underway. A report is being prepared for Council's July meeting to present the procurement outcome and seek the necessary approvals to proceed.

The headworks upgrade is a critical first step in the wider wastewater treatment plant upgrade programme. The headworks are responsible for removing large debris and grit from incoming wastewater before it enters the treatment process. Replacing this ageing infrastructure will improve the reliability, resilience and operational efficiency of the treatment plant while supporting future population growth and increased demand.

Due to the complexity and significance of the procurement process, together with the detailed design requirements associated with the project, construction is now expected to commence during the 2026/27 financial year. Planning and procurement activities completed to date have positioned the project well for delivery of this important upgrade.

### **Levin WWTP – Irrigation Expansion**

Work is continuing to progress on the proposed expansion of the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant irrigation scheme. Activities to date have included reviewing previous technical investigations and site assessments, engaging with iwi partners and developing preliminary design and consenting strategies.

The project forms part of the wider wastewater programme and is intended to support improved management of treated wastewater through increased land-based irrigation capacity. Current work is focused on confirming the preferred approach for consenting, land requirements and staging of future infrastructure upgrades.

Investigations are also considering how the proposed irrigation expansion aligns with planned wastewater treatment plant upgrades, including improvements to treatment performance and reductions in nitrogen loading. Further technical, environmental, and consenting assessments are underway to inform future decision-making and programme delivery.

### **Tokomaru WWTP Upgrades**

Officers are continuing to investigate options for managing treated wastewater at the existing treatment plant site and surrounding land. Current work is focused on confirming the technical feasibility of the preferred approach, including land requirements, treatment performance, environmental assessments and consenting considerations. Alongside this work, interim measures are being implemented to support compliance and operational performance while longer-term solutions are developed.

The next phase of work will focus on completing technical assessments, confirming consenting requirements and refining the preferred delivery approach. Subject to Council approval and land availability, consenting is anticipated to commence in late 2026, with procurement and construction the following financial year.

### Mangaore Village Wastewater Main Renewals

Wastewater renewal works are progressing in Mangaore to improve the reliability of the wastewater network and reduce the risk of future failures. The works include wastewater pipeline replacement and rehabilitation, pipe bursting, network cleaning, and manhole renewal activities.

Construction commenced in April 2026 and is progressing as planned, with completion expected in July 2026. This will require any remaining budget from this financial year to be carried forward.

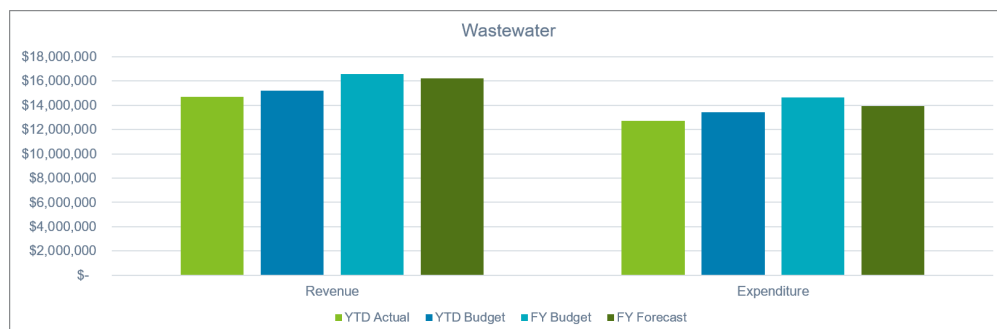
The project is being delivered through Council's Districtwide Network Renewals programme and will help maintain the long-term performance and resilience of the wastewater network.

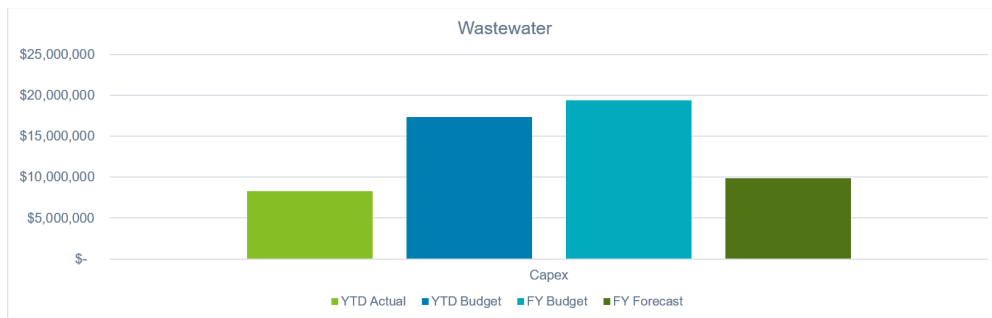


WW pipe renewal works Mangaore Village, Shannon

### Financial

Operationally tracking within budget, noting that some additional costs were incurred in relation to the storm event covered separately under that work order. It is expected that in the next reporting period additional costs will be incurred related to the processing and disposal of sludge.





Wastewater YTD actual capital spend is approximately \$8.2m against a full-year budget of \$19.4m. Full-year forecast expenditure is \$9.8m, which is around \$9.5m below budget. This underspend reflects timing delays in the headworks programme, with construction now expected to occur in the 2026/27 FY, along with deferred delivery across some renewal and upgrade projects. Remaining spend is expected to be delivered across the LWWTP Inlet Pipe, Queen Street wastewater connection, and Mangaore wastewater renewals, with associated carry forwards anticipated for the 2026/27 FY.

## Stormwater and Local Waters Network

### What we are delivering

#### Queen Street Stormwater Intervention Device

Installation of the Queen Street Stormwater Intervention Device was completed in April 2026, with reinstatement works now finalised and practical completion issued. The device is designed to improve stormwater quality and forms part of Council's wider programme of stormwater improvements across Levin.

The project was delivered by Tatana Contractors under the oversight of the Freshwater Improvement Fund Governance Group, which includes representatives from the Lake Trust, Muaūpoko Tribal Authority, and Council. It supports ongoing work associated with the Levin Stormwater Discharge Consent and contributes to improved environmental outcomes within the local stormwater network.





*The images above provide an overview of the Queen Street Stormwater Intervention Device project in Levin from installation to reinstatement.*

### **Okarito-Magnolia Stormwater Connection**

Construction of a new stormwater connection linking Okarito Avenue to the recently installed stormwater main at the end of Magnolia Place is progressing. The project is being delivered by Tatana Contractors.

Approximately 100 metres of pipe has been installed. Works remain on track for completion by mid-2026 and will provide improved network capacity and resilience for the surrounding development area. This final connection will complete key stormwater infrastructure for the North-East Levin area, improving the management and conveyance of stormwater within the catchment.



*Stormwater pipe materials and installation at the Okarito site Levin.*

## **District-wide Stormwater Improvement Projects**

### **Stansell Street Stormwater Improvements (Shannon)**

Investigation and design for the Stansell Street stormwater improvement project have been completed, and construction dates (for June 2026) are being finalised. The project will improve drainage performance and reduce the risk of localised flooding for surrounding properties, delivering improved resilience and service levels within the local stormwater network.

### **Vincent Drive Stormwater Improvements (Levin)**

The Vincent Drive stormwater improvement project is addressing long-standing stormwater discharge and flooding issues associated with an outfall that currently relies on a privately owned rural drain. Investigations and design work have been completed to establish a more reliable discharge arrangement, providing improved maintenance access and reducing flood risk to the upstream network. Construction commenced on 10 June.

### **Waitāre Beach Stormwater Outfall Extension**

The Waitāre Beach stormwater outfall extension project is progressing through the resource consent and stakeholder engagement phase. The project aims to address stormwater discharge constraints caused by coastal accretion and dune growth, which have reduced the effectiveness of existing outfalls and increased flood risk to the settlement. Consultation with Horizons Regional Council, DOC, Mana Whenua and environmental specialists is underway, with technical assessments and construction methodology documentation being prepared to support the consent application (for construction). The proposed works will improve stormwater network resilience, reduce maintenance requirements, and enhance long-term discharge performance.

### **Groundwater Monitoring Wells and Level Loggers – Levin, Foxton, Waitāre Beach and Foxton Beach**

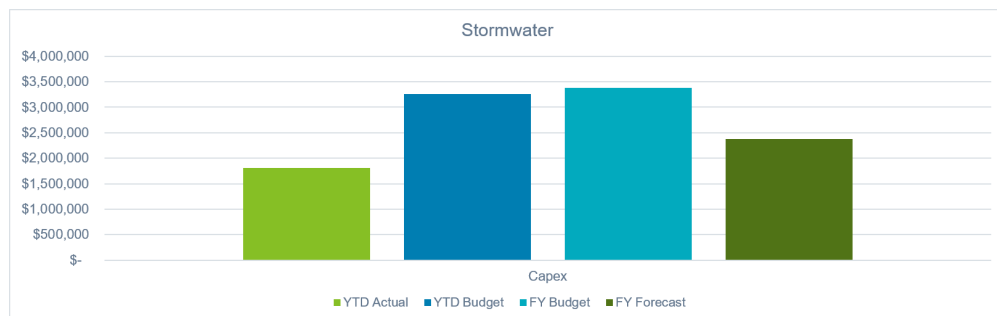
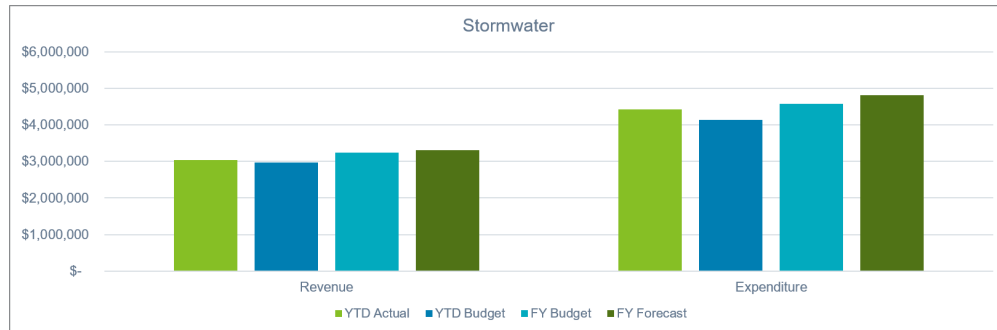
A district-wide groundwater monitoring network has been established with five new monitoring wells installed across Levin, Foxton, Foxton Beach and Waitāre Beach. The programme includes shallow and deep monitoring wells fitted with level loggers to improve understanding of groundwater behaviour and its interaction with flooding and drainage issues. Data collected will support flood investigations, future growth planning, catchment management, and evidence-based investment in stormwater infrastructure.

### **Stormwater Flowmeter Installations – Levin, Waitāre Beach and Foxton**

Four new stormwater flowmeters are being installed at key discharge locations across Levin, Waitāre Beach and Foxton to improve understanding of catchment performance and stormwater flows during rainfall events. The monitoring programme will provide valuable data to support future flood modelling, catchment assessments, infrastructure planning, and investment prioritisation. The equipment has been selected to support long-term monitoring and evidence-based decision making across the district's stormwater network.

### Financial

Operationally tracking over budget due to ongoing additional network maintenance, both reactive and proactive works. Service Connection revenue is also forecast to be down due to limited requests during the December & January period.



The current YTD capital spend for stormwater is approximately \$1.8m against a full-year budget of \$3.3m. Full-year forecast expenditure is \$2.3m, which is around \$1m below budget, with approximately \$580k of remaining spend expected to be delivered. This reflects construction timing, with the FIF Queen Street Stormwater Intervention Device project completed in May. The majority of forecast remaining expenditure is associated with delivery of the Okarito Stormwater Connection project and the Levin and districtwide improvement works. The Okarito project is likely to continue through to the first quarter of the 2026/27 financial year.

## **Ngā Ratonga Whakariterite ā-Ture Regulatory Services Activity**

*The Regulatory Services activity sits across two Groups. You can find activity updates for the Regulatory Services activity in the Community Experience and Services Group and the Housing and Business Development Group updates.*

### **General Update**

The reporting period saw progress across a number of customer experience, regulatory, and compliance initiatives, including the delivery of customer service training, implementation of new parking enforcement technology, commencement of the 2026 Resident Satisfaction Survey, and continued delivery of statutory regulatory functions.

The 2026 Resident Satisfaction Survey was open to residents from 22 April to 17 May 2026. Surveys were distributed via email to Council's ratepayer database and promoted through Council's website and communication channels to encourage broad community participation. The survey provides residents with an opportunity to share their views on Council services, facilities, communications, and quality of life within the district. The feedback helps Council understand community priorities, identify areas performing well, and highlight opportunities for improvement. Results will be used to inform future planning, service delivery, and decision-making.

Council's internal Customer Service Excellence training programme continued during the period, with kaimahi participating in training focused on building confidence and capability in customer interactions and service delivery.

Customer Pulse surveying also continued throughout the reporting period, with short surveys sent to customers following their interactions with Council. By seeking feedback close to the time of service delivery, Council is able to better understand the customer experience and identify emerging trends and opportunities for improvement. Feedback is shared directly with business units, helping teams recognise positive customer experiences, improve processes, and make informed decisions about service delivery.

Council also participated in two Environment Court proceedings during the reporting period as part of its statutory role in administering and enforcing planning and environmental legislation. While most regulatory matters are resolved through education, engagement, and voluntary compliance, the Court process provides an important mechanism for independently reviewing decisions and ensuring environmental and planning outcomes are appropriately considered. Decisions have now been issued by the Court.

### **Customer & Compliance**

#### **What we are delivering**

##### **Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) Ready Programme**

The first ever Responsible Dog Owner Approval Ready (RDOA Ready) course was delivered during the reporting period, attracting 55 attendees.

The course was developed to support dog owners on their journey towards achieving Responsible Dog Owner Approval and provides an alternative pathway to traditional dog obedience training requirements.

The programme reflects Council's commitment to working alongside dog owners through education and support, helping people better understand their responsibilities while promoting safe and responsible dog ownership across the district. The strong turnout for the inaugural course highlighted the community's interest in the programme and has provided a solid foundation for future courses.

The next RDOA Ready course is planned for September 2026, with registrations opening closer to the course date.



### **Ōtaki to North of Levin (Ō2NL) Compliance Monitoring**

Compliance monitoring associated with the Ōtaki to North of Levin (Ō2NL) project continued throughout the reporting period. As one of the largest infrastructure projects currently underway in the district, ongoing monitoring helps ensure environmental and consent requirements are being met and that potential effects on the community and environment are appropriately managed.

### **Parking Compliance Technology**

The Automated Licence Plate Recognition (ALPR) parking enforcement system became operational during the reporting period. The technology assists officers to more efficiently monitor parking compliance across the district and supports the fair and consistent management of public parking spaces, helping to improve turnover and availability for residents, visitors and local businesses.

### **Alcohol Licensing Governance**

A District Licensing Committee Chairperson and Commissioner were appointed during the reporting period. These appointments ensure the Committee can continue to carry out its statutory responsibilities under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, including making independent decisions on alcohol licensing matters within the district.

Council Officers have commenced preparatory work for the six-yearly review of its Local Alcohol Policy, helping to ensure the policy remains fit for purpose and continues to reflect the needs and expectations of the Horowhenua community.

**General Regulatory Services**

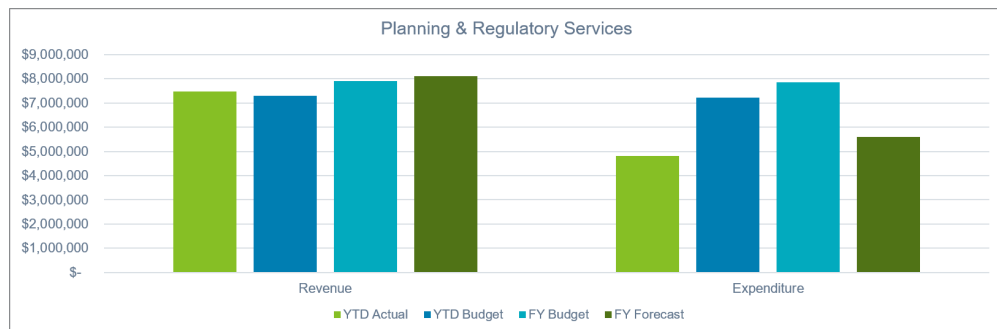
Council continued to deliver regulatory services, including animal control, alcohol licensing, environmental health, food business registration and verification, building compliance, resource management compliance, and parking enforcement.

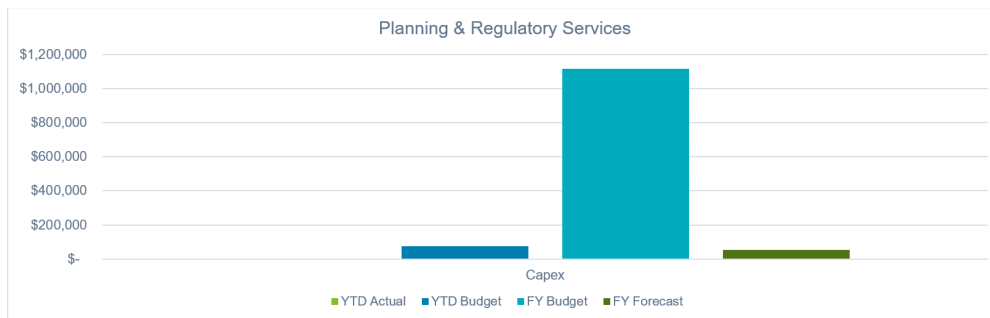
These services help protect public health and safety, support environmental outcomes, and ensure activities undertaken within the district comply with legislative and regulatory requirements. Through a combination of education, engagement, monitoring, and enforcement, Council works alongside residents and businesses to achieve positive community outcomes.



**Financial**

The Regulatory Services activity sits across the Community Experience and Services Group and the Housing and Business Development Group. The financial information provided here is for the entire Regulatory Services activity.





Capital projects for this activity relate to parking meters and dog pound.

## Community Vision and Delivery

### Group Update

This period has seen the Community Vision & Delivery Group focus on leading and supporting the work on many of Council's priorities. This has included continuing to make progress on the following priorities;

- Levin Town Centre Transformation
- Ō2NL
- Integrated Growth Planning
- Destination Management
- Economic Development
- Supporting Reform
- Foxton/Foxton Beach and Shannon Community Plans
- Annual Plan 2026/27
- Long Term Plan 2027.

These priorities are covered in detail in the report under the Council Priorities section.

### Communications and Engagement

The Communications and Engagement Team played a key role in keeping the community informed and involved as Council progressed a range of important projects and responded to emerging issues. Through media releases, community engagement activities, digital channels and public information campaigns, the team supported conversations on topics including the future of local government, water services reform, waste management, town centre transformation, parking and access, and Council's long-term financial sustainability. A particular focus was ensuring the community had opportunities to provide feedback on decisions that will help shape Horowhenua's future, including the Future Fit | Headstart conversations and consultation on the Proposed Solid Waste Bylaw.

The team also supported Council's response to operational matters and community needs throughout the quarter. This included providing timely public information ahead of a significant weather event, promoting employment and training opportunities through local Job and Training Expos, and communicating how Council is responding to rising costs and national reforms. Alongside this, the team continued to tell the story of Council's work through updates on major projects such as the Levin Town Centre Transformation, key milestones for Central Districts Water, Civic Building renewal works, and the adoption of the Access and Parking Strategy. Through clear, accessible and proactive communication, the team helped build community understanding, support informed decision-making, and strengthen connections between Council and the people it serves.

Year to date the Council website [horowhenua.govt.nz](http://horowhenua.govt.nz) has had 704,413 views to the site from 187,822 users (users could include an individual user that may access the site via multiple channels i.e. personal desktop, work desktop, mobile). Females make up 68% of users, with the 65+ year old age group the most active. Outside of the search function,

visitors to site are searching most for their rubbish and recycling collection date, online maps and rating information. We see the most link clicks on the district plan, agendas and our contact us sections.

Sentiment across social media channel was 51% positive for the period. Posts that attracted the most positive sentiment included the Isla and Riley providing an update on the Levin Town Centre Transformation mahi, Cody Taylor and the Foxton Water Tower glowing purple. Those posts that received the most negative sentiment included Wasted with Kate – waste minimisation video discussing fly tipping, Amalgamation and Dog Registrations.

### **Destination Management**

Seasonal destination marketing activity over this period has focused on promoting Horowhenua as a winter destination through travel blogs, website content, e-newsletters, digital marketing, and social media. This has included supporting Wellington Gold Awards finalist Ōhau Gourmet Mushrooms with promotional video content, showcasing the business's sustainable growing practices, farm tours, and unique food products.

Work commenced on a refresh of the Horowhenua Visitor Guide, including updated content, imagery, and visitor information. The refresh includes the addition of a dedicated Waitārere Beach section, recognising the area's importance as a visitor destination and helping to better showcase the breadth of experiences available across the district. The updated guide is expected to be ready for distribution within the next few weeks.

A current and upcoming focus is on helping identify and tell the stories that make Horowhenua a great place to visit, live and invest in. The content project will showcase operators, locations, experiences and people that give Horowhenua its unique character. Outputs are expected to be delivered by the end of June and will include a hero destination video, professional photography, and short-form video content. These assets will provide Council and industry with a valuable resource to support future destination marketing, promotion, and wider growth initiatives.

Initial discussions have been held with Steam Incorporated to support promotion of its new High Tea Experience in Horowhenua and explore future opportunities for rail-based visitor experiences within the district. This work supports the development of unique visitor experiences and helps strengthen connections with the Wellington market.

Regional collaboration continued to be a focus, with a meeting held with Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) to explore opportunities for greater regional tourism alignment, trade-ready visitor experiences, and participation in wider market development initiatives. Discussions have also continued with Kāpiti Coast tourism leads, resulting in an invitation for Horowhenua operators to attend a Neat Places industry workshop in Kāpiti. Conversations are also underway to explore whether popular Kāpiti winter Hot Chocolate Competition could be expanded to include participating cafés from Horowhenua.

The March 2026 Infometrics quarterly tourism note was received in May and provided encouraging signs of recovery for Horowhenua's visitor economy. Visitor spending increased 5.6% to \$218 million over the year to March 2026, alongside growth in guest nights, international visitation, and peer-to-peer accommodation. These results suggest improving visitor demand and provide a positive indication that tourism activity is recovering following softer performance through parts of 2025.

### **Economic Development**

THCL continued to support economic development outcomes across Horowhenua with a focus on business growth, investment attraction, Ōtaki to North Levin (Ō2NL) opportunities, and the Levin Town Centre Retail Transformation Strategy.

Significant progress was made preparing the draft Levin Town Centre Retail Transformation Strategy. The strategy was informed by retailer and property owner engagement, economic and market analysis, benchmarking, and assessment of town centre opportunities and challenges. It identifies practical actions to strengthen town centre vitality, improve business readiness, and support Levin's transition ahead of the Ōtaki to North Levin Expressway opening.

THCL also continued to coordinate local business engagement associated with Ō2NL, helping businesses understand upcoming opportunities and prepare for participation in project supply chains. The Ō2NL Register of Interest database now includes 338 businesses, including 190 local businesses and 142 Horowhenua businesses. Feedback gathered through THCL's engagement with local businesses has also helped influence improvements to the tendering process. Working with Alliance partners, THCL advocated for greater communication and feedback to businesses both before and after tender submissions, helping local firms better understand procurement requirements and improve future applications. To further support local supplier participation, a Business-to-Business (B2B) Register has been established, providing businesses with visibility of upcoming opportunities and enabling collaboration across a range of tender categories.

Business support and capability-building activity remained strong through direct business engagement, networking events, business capability, and collaboration with local and regional partners. THCL also continued to support development enquiries, investment opportunities, and wider economic growth initiatives across the district.

Key activity highlights (year to date):

- More than 350 business engagements
- 15 business events delivered
- Six development and investment enquiries supported
- Preparation of Draft Levin Town Centre Retail Transformation Strategy
- Continued delivery of Ō2NL business readiness activities
- Improvements to tender communication and feedback processes for local businesses
- Establishment of a Business-to-Business Register to support supplier collaboration and procurement opportunities

- Ongoing regional collaboration on freight, industrial land, investment attraction and economic transition opportunities.



## Housing and Business Development

### Ngā Ratonga Whakariterite ā-Ture

#### Regulatory Services Activity

*The Regulatory Services activity sits across two Groups. You can find activity updates for the Regulatory Services activity in the Community Experience and Services Group, and the Housing and Business Development Group updates.*

#### General Update

##### The Local Market Vibe

While in the past quarter the Resource Consenting & Development Engineering Teams have had a good handle on the demand in this space, the Building Consenting Team has had to face some evolving challenges head on.

In responding to our latest IANZ audit and the need to improve the quality of the compliance schedules in the CCC space, several tension points have arisen around the new requirements being put in place. While this has created a tension point in our process and the community, everyone has worked well in collaborating to get over the hump that the sudden change created.

We have moved through many of the legacy consenting issues and any future consents requiring compliance schedules now have expectations outlined at the beginning of the process to enable those in the community responding to the change to be better prepared going forward.

We acknowledge that this has been a trying time and we continue to focus all our effort in improving timeframes and the experience across all our consenting activities.

#### Housing Market Overview - NZ Construction & Economic Outlook

##### Key Points

##### 1. Macro Environment: Sentiment Improving but Fragile

Business and consumer indicators show a gradual shift away from pessimism, with sentiment moving into mildly positive territory.

- Business confidence rose 21 points in May to net +10, signalling that earlier global shocks are fading
- The prevailing tone is one of cautious optimism, best described as *easing negativism*.

##### 2. OCR: The Primary Downside Risk

The RBNZ held the OCR at 2.25% on a 3-3 split vote, highlighting internal uncertainty.

- Markets now price a 90% chance of a July rate hike

- The OCR track suggests consecutive increases, lifting borrowing costs
- A sudden July hike could freeze new subdivisions and medium-density projects, with consent volumes likely weakening 6–12 months later.

### 3. Residential Sector: Stable but Uneven

Residential consents have established a resilient floor, though activity varies significantly across districts.

- CNZ data shows consents up vs. 2025 YTD, but value of work and floor area are down = smaller or lower-spec builds
- Residential building work is forecast to rise 1.5% next quarter, supporting a predictable flow of standard applications.

### 4. Non-Residential Sector: Long-Term Decline Persists

Non-residential activity remains structurally weak (Commercial development activity).

- A modest 0.5% rebound is expected this quarter, following a 5% drop previously
- Commercial consents requiring specialised engineering and complex compliance reviews are thinning out.

### 5. Regional Activity: Strong Pockets, Quiet Districts

Activity is not evenly distributed.

- Some regions show strong residential pipelines
- Others remain quiet, requiring targeted resource allocation rather than uniform scaling.

Overall, the sector is transitioning from deep pessimism to fragile stability.

- Residential activity is holding firm
- Non-residential work remains weak
- Interest rates pose the most significant near-term risk.

## Growth Summary



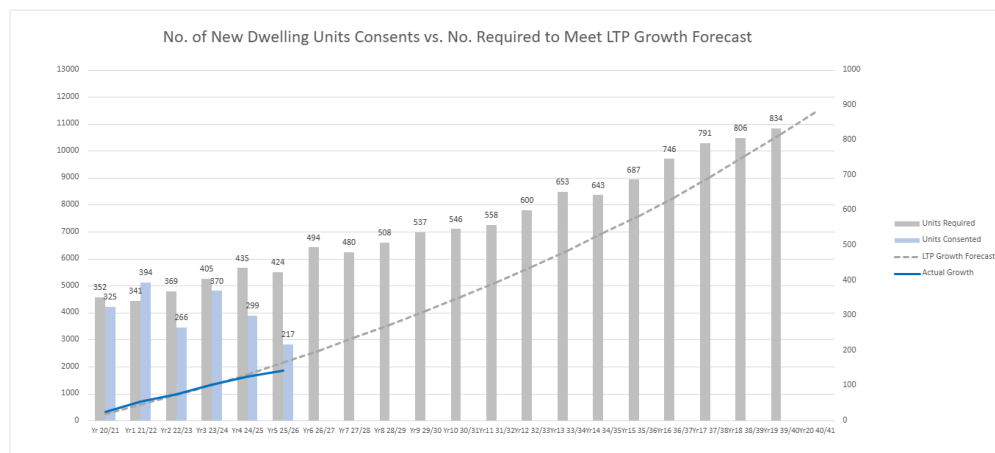
*Building Consents by Month Statistics New Zealand*

This quarter we have seen an uptick in the consenting volumes to 3,802 units in April, up

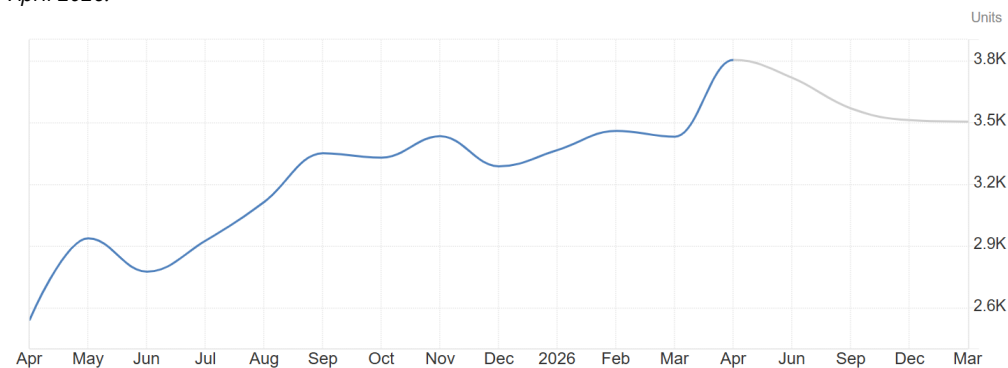
from the 3,429 units recorded in March. Volumes across the Horowhenua remain solid.

Now 10 months into the period extrapolated growth numbers look like they will run around 39% below that forecast on the growth curve, slightly down on the prior quarter.

In trying market conditions, the underlying volume across the district appears steady with signs of improvement. Although there is growth in demand on the horizon, (forecast +4.5% in 2026/27), volumes are expected to run flat to the next election at which time some confidence may re-enter the market. We are likely at the bottom of the build cycle and can expect an upswing through to 2029.



*Building Consents Issued for New Dwelling Units vs. LTP (Long Term Plan) Growth Forecast YTD to 30 April 2026.*



*Forecasted trend for Building Consents by month. Statistics New Zealand*

**Consenting Forecast - Summary Overview**

Building consents for new dwellings in New Zealand surged 10.9% month-on-month in April 2026, rebounding sharply from a downwardly revised 0.8% decline in March.

A total of 3,692 new dwellings were consented, including 1,604 stand-alone houses, 1,530 townhouses, flats, and units, 499 apartments, and 59 retirement village units. Commercial activity is down and particularly quiet in the lower North Island, led by a general downturn

in Wellington.

In the year ended April 2026, the total number of new dwellings consented was 39,087, up 16% from the year ended April 2025. New Zealand recorded 7.3 new dwellings consented per 1,000 residents, up from 6.3 per 1,000 in the previous year. The local market continues to perform solidly and as before we would expect the local run rate to remain above that nationally, resulting from developments such as the Ō2NL roading project which is now well underway.

When demand begins to trend up again, our ability to resource this demand will again come into question as we continue to work proactively in the market to source qualified resource while internally developing some of our own.

Pending changes coming from central government in 2026, including BCA consolidation, targeted inspection times, self-certifying plumbing work, granny flats not requiring consents and changes to liability settings for council to name a few will continue to challenge our ability to adapt and perform to the levels expected by our community.

## What we are delivering

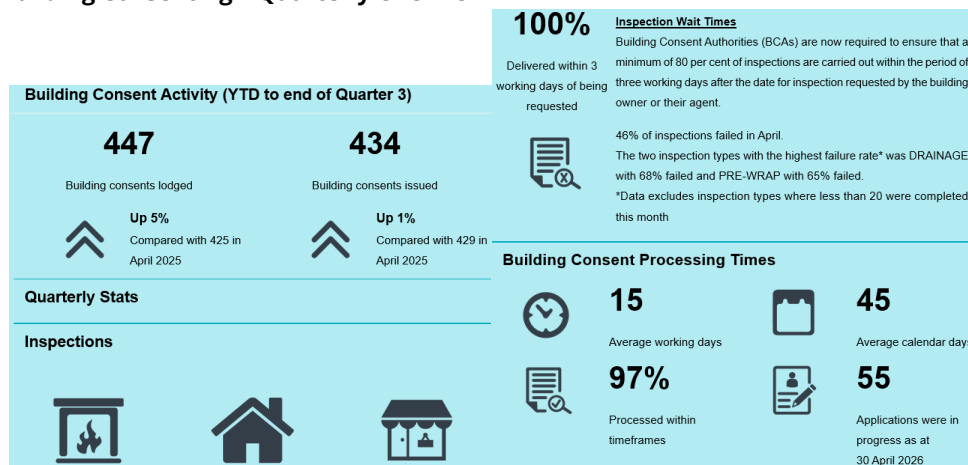
### Performance Reporting to the Market

Each month an update of our consenting performance is proactively posted to the 'Build Horowhenua' customer database.

The intent is to be open and honest around consenting timeframes and performance with the view that through working with our development community that we can lift performance of the building system across the district.

Below is a consolidated view of the monthly mailouts to provide a summarised quarterly view for the purposes of this report.

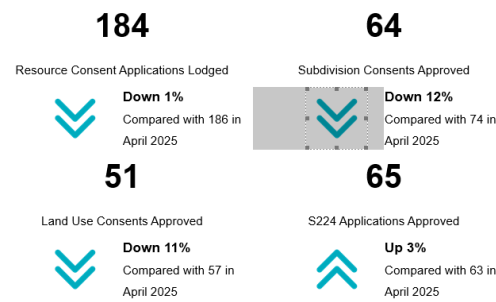
### Building Consenting - Quarterly Overview





## Resource Consenting – Quarterly Overview

### Resource Consent Activity (YTD to the end of Quarter 3)

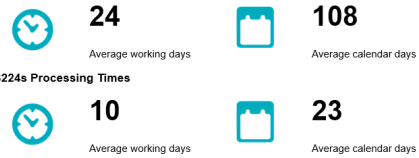


### Quarterly Stats

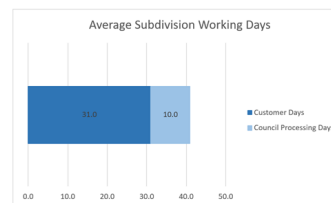
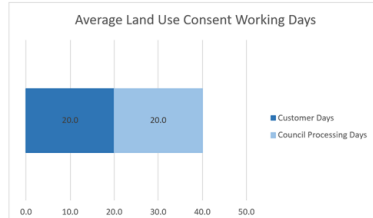
#### Resource Consent Processing Times



#### Subdivision Consent Processing Times



### Land Use Consent Processing Times



### Resource Consent Feedback



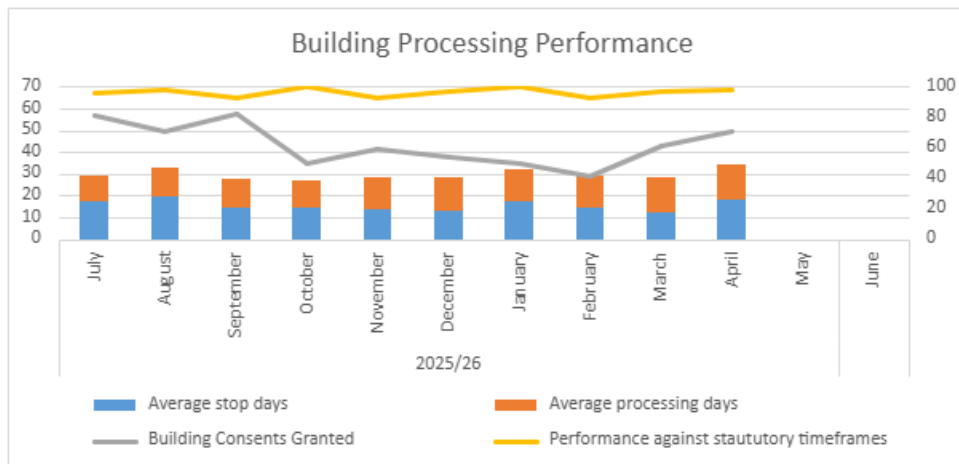
**Building Consenting - Metrics**

Building consent trends based on data for the period for 2024/25 financial year and from 1 July 2025 to 30 April 2026 are as follows:

	YTD to 30 April 2026	YTD to 30 April 2025	Trend
<b>Number of building consents lodged</b>	447	425	↑5%
<b>Number of building consents issued</b>	434	429	↑1%
<b>Number of new dwelling consents issued</b>	110	131	↓16
<b>Number of new dwelling units consented</b>	217	229	↓5%
<b>Value of building consents issued</b>	\$115,263,725	\$135,152,845	↓15%
<b>Number of inspections completed</b>	6355	6505	↓2%
<b>Number of CCCs issued</b>	351	405	↓13%
<b>Number of enquiries about building control functions</b>	1404	1297	↑8%

The number of consents issued for new dwellings is similar to the same period in 2024/25, however there were fewer dwelling units consented. Demand continues to fluctuate month to month, but metric trends remain similar to last year overall. The Horowhenua has remained solid relative to the generalised trend across the country.

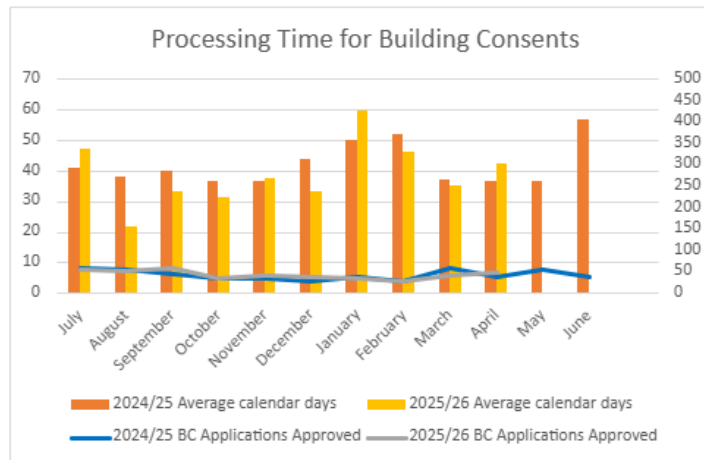
Monthly compliance with statutory processing times in 2024/25 fluctuated between 93-100% throughout the year so far with an average of 97%, as below:



Performance has remained steady this year overall, the goal to process at least 95% of consents within statutory timeframes, has been met. Work in progress is being closely monitored to ensure consents are progressing through the process as intended.

Ensuring costs and timeframes are kept in balance is an ongoing challenge as we continue to search for technically qualified resources to employ inhouse. Volume and availability of skilled resources remain a key challenge and focus.

**Building Consent Processing Time - Benchmarks**

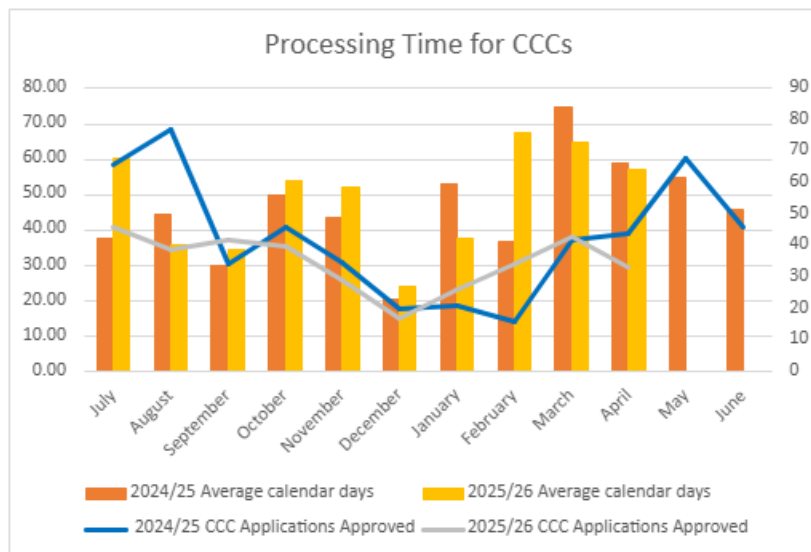


The volume of building consents in progress fluctuated between 41 and 74 in 2024/25, a similar range has been observed YTD with 42 to 72 building consents in progress at any one time.

The last few years have seen a consistent positive trend of building consents being processed in fewer calendar days than in the same months in the 2023/24 year. Although there are exceptions to this in some months this financial year, which is likely to be due to resourcing available at the time.

In real terms this is the true customer experience measure, timing from submission to granting has decreased from an average of 60 calendar days in 2022/23, 47 calendar days in 2023/24, and 41 days in 2024/25 to 38 days YTD to the end of April 2026. NB: this is a mean value and does not highlight outliers.

This measure shows not only improvement in performance in council process but also improvement in performance of our partners in the community. Although we are bound by the statutory timeframes, the elapsed time from dropping the application in to council and picking up the granted consent is a self-imposed benchmark that we will aim to continue to improve upon.



The average processing time for Code Compliance Certificates (CCCs) in 2022/23 was 36 calendar days, in 2023/24 it was 40 calendar days, and 54 calendar days 2024/25 and is 51 days YTD to the end of April 2026.

Approximately 92% of CCCs issued YTD to the end of April 2026 have been processed within statutory timeframes, this is an improvement on 90% in the 2024/25 and 2023/24 years. Compliance with timeframes has decreased over the last couple of months due to some older commercial applications being issued and resourcing availability.

Resourcing levels in the commercial space continue to impact statutory timeframes for CCCs and calendar days taken. Following our IANZ accreditation re-assessment we engaged a contractor to issue compliance schedules for CCC applications where the building contains specified systems (fire alarms, automatic doors etc.).

### BCA Accreditation Re-assessment

Our biennial accreditation re-assessment from International Accreditation New Zealand (IANZ) audit was completed in April 2025, the result was very positive, and the initial finding was that Council was deemed to be a low risk from a compliance perspective. The result was that nine items (eight general non-compliance + one serious non-compliance) were tasked for improvement.

All non-compliances were resolved and IANZ confirmed our low-risk status and continuation of accreditation on 20 January 2026.

The specified systems aspect of the consenting process was the area focussed on by IANZ and the changes requiring to be implemented have raised the level of feedback from the development community. We continue to try and work through this change proactively and with our building community towards the new normal.

**Project Information Memoranda (PIMs) for Small, Standalone Dwellings**

On 15 January 2026, a change to schedule 1 of the Building Act 2004 came into force, enabling some small, standalone dwellings (also known as granny flats) to be built without a building consent, as long as they meet relevant conditions. One of the conditions is that a PIM is obtained before construction commences.

A new National Environmental Standard was also introduced for Detached Minor Residential Units (NES-DMRU), this enables some granny flats to be a permitted activity. This is also assessment through the PIM process.

As of 30 April 2026, we have issued 3 PIMs for non-consented small standalone dwellings.

**Resource Consenting - Metrics**

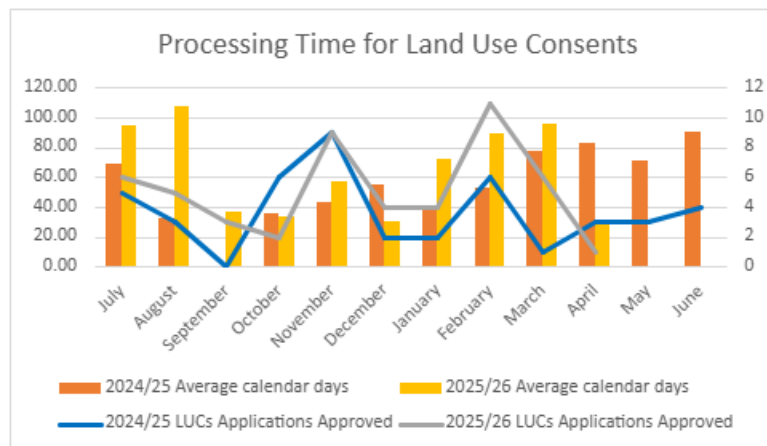
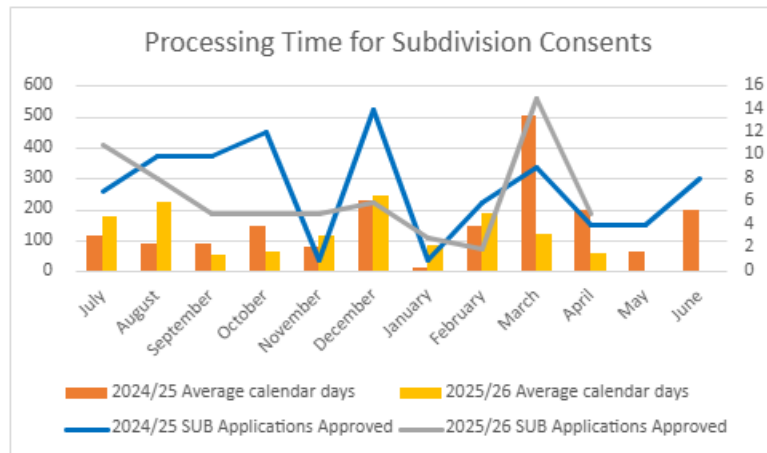
Resource consent trends based on data for the period for 2024/25 financial year and from 1 July 2025 to 30 April 2026 are as follows:

	YTD to 30 April 2026	YTD to 30 April 2025	Trend
<b>Number of resource consent applications lodged</b>	184	186	↓1%
<b>Number of subdivisions consents approved</b>	65	74	↓12%
<b>Number of land use consents approved</b>	51	57	↓11%
<b>Number of new allotments created at 223 stage</b>	279	129	↑116%
<b>Number of new allotments created at 224 stage</b>	230	140	↑64%
<b>Number of enquiries about planning &amp; development activity</b>	870	958	↓9%

Approximately 76% of resource consents processed YTD to the end of April 2026 were issued within statutory timeframes. It is noted that the level of compliance with statutory timeframes has gradually increased YTD, due to the additional measures that have been put in place to ensure top monitor and manage workflows.

No Streamlined Housing pre-application meetings have been held YTD, and no Streamlined Housing consents have been lodged or approved YTD.

Resource Consent processing time benchmarks

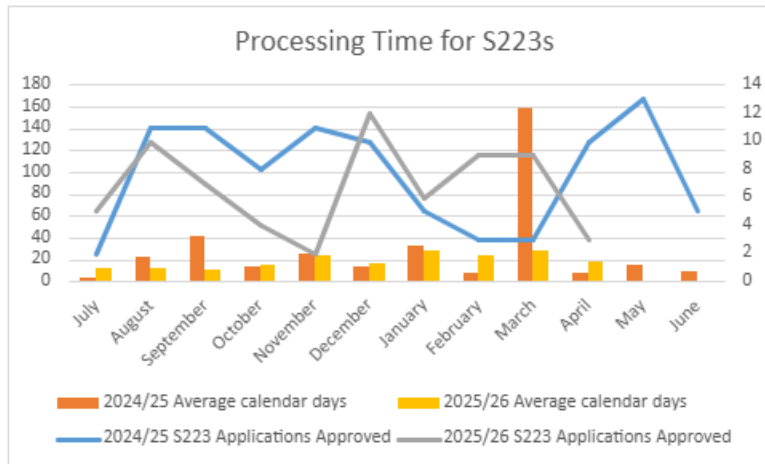


The Resource Consenting space remains a key area of focus, and work is progressing on closing out aged consents with an ongoing, agile review of consenting processes in progress.

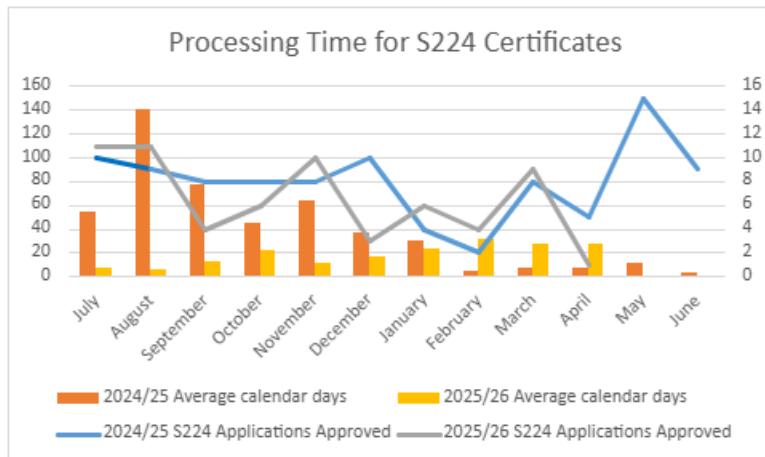
The calendar days taken to process Land Use (LUC) have increased to 75 days YTD to the end of April 2026 compared with 57 days in 2024/25 and 99 days in 2023/24. Similarly, the average number of calendar days to process Subdivision (SUB) consents was 140 days YTD to the end of April 2026, compared with 177 calendar days in 2024/25 and 123 calendar days in 2023/24.

These peaks are largely due to the granting of old subdivision consents that have been in the system for some time. The RMA has historically allowed consents to remain in progress indefinitely, even if they were inactive for large periods of time.

Recent changes in the Resource Management (Consenting and Other System Changes) Amendment Act have been enacted, meaning that we will be able to implement a process to return abandoned applications in the future. This should result in a reduction in the overall number of calendar days to process consents.



The average processing time for s223 certification (deposit of land transfer plan) YTD to the end of April 2026 was 16 days, this is a significant decrease from 25 calendar days in 2024/25.



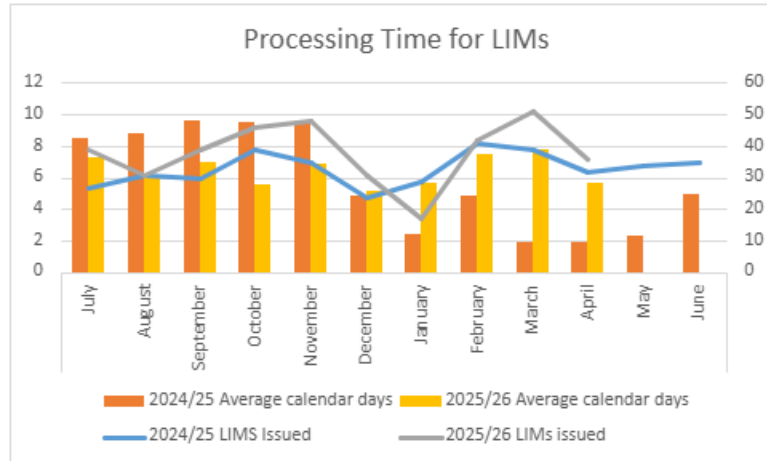
The average processing time for s224 certification (to enable new titles to be issued) YTD to the end of April 2026 was 16 days, this is a slight increase from 11 calendar days in 2024/25.

**Land Information Memoranda**

The average calendar days for processing LIM requests was 7 days YTD to the end of April 2026, which is close to 6 calendar days in 2024/25.

Out of the 380 LIM requests processed YTD to the end of April 2026, approximately 73% were processed within 5 working days and 100% were processed within the 10-working day statutory timeframe.

Several changes have been made to the natural hazard information provided in LIMs, because of legislative changes.



**Financial**

*The Regulatory Services activity sits across the Community Experience and Services group and the Housing and Business Development Group, the financial information provided here is for the entire regulatory Services activity.*

Revenue and expenditure performance/forecast to year end remains in positive territory. Although several changes have been engaged in the business to ensure that consenting activities are delivered on time, we remain ahead of the budgeted position heading to year end.

## **Capability and Transformation**

### **What we are delivering**

#### **Business Continuity Plan**

The Business Continuity Plan (BCP) annual update has commenced, marking 12 months since it was last developed. As part of this process, BCP strategies have been distributed to teams for review and updates, ensuring all information remains accurate and relevant in the event of a disruption requiring plan activation. Teams have already begun providing updates, while others are actively engaging in discussions and working collaboratively across teams to ensure information is aligned and consistent. This work is critical to maintaining preparedness across HDC, enabling an effective response to and recovering from disruptions, minimising impacts on critical services, and ensuring continuity for the community.

#### **Risk Framework**

The draft Risk Appetite Statements were presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee and received their endorsement. The statements will now be progressed to Council in June for formal adoption. Once adopted by Council the risk appetite statements will be rolled out across the organisation. Having a clearly defined risk appetite provides clarity across Council on the nature and level of risk that can be accepted, supporting a balanced approach between potential impacts on objectives and the treatment required to align with this appetite. It establishes clear boundaries for decision-making and ensures that risk-taking is intentional, consistent, and aligned with Council's strategic objectives and obligations. This is a critical component of effective risk management, enabling informed decision-making, prioritisation of resources, and improved organisational resilience.

#### **Cyber Security Awareness**

As part of our cyber security awareness initiatives, in this reporting period we launched a short cyber security knowledge quiz. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is already making phishing attacks more sophisticated, personalized, and common, so ongoing education aims to improve cyber security knowledge and raise awareness of common security practices and risks.

## Ngā Whaingā Matua | Council Priorities

*Leading to get the best outcomes for Horowhenua, shaped by community voices and partnerships.*

### Priority 1 – Going for Growth

**We see the opportunities that come with growth and want to ensure a return on investment that contributes to Horowhenua’s liveability and prosperity.**

#### **Integrated growth planning informs infrastructure investment and key moves.**

##### **Tararua Road Masterplan**

Work on the Tararua Road Master Plan is progressing well, with a series of internal workshops delivered, consultant support engaged and it being a topic of discussion with the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Industrial Land Steering Group. A Council workshop is expected to take place in August, with the aim of presenting initial draft concept plans for discussion and feedback.

##### **Growth Area gap analysis with focus on wider network transport modelling**

Draft modelling as part of Ō2NL project impacts were received from NZTA the week of 8 June. Officers are working through the initial findings including wider network impacts at the Liverpool St rail crossing.

##### **Development of Vested Assets Policy**

The review and establishment of the vested assets recovery concept and wider value capture for our community is ongoing. Phase two has recently been completed and outlines the potential mechanisms currently available to support and address the intent.

At the current hold point, a pivot was engaged to model a case-based scenario for plan change 6A, incorporating the work done in scoping infrastructure requirements for this development to date.

The aim being to provide a working insight into the nature and scope of the problem in the value capture/vested assets space, to test the current methodology and to determine next steps in the development of a policy position should clear gaps be identified. The test case should provide clarity as to the true opportunity and fit with the current revenue and funding policy ahead of advice to Council as part of the Long-Term Plan review. This review is underway and should complete in the coming months

#### **Ensuring Growth delivers essential services communities can rely on and afford.**

Delivery of 3W capital programme (in line with Financial Strategy)

Progress across the Three Waters Capital Programme has continued this period, with total forecast expenditure of \$17.2 million. This comprises \$14.6 million spent to date and \$2.5

million remaining. Detailed updates on key projects are provided in the Community Infrastructure section of this report.

### **Levin Town Centre transformation acts as a catalyst.**

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#### **Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark site**

The Request for Proposal (RFP) process for the redevelopment of the property was completed and evaluated prior to a report being presented to Council 27 May seeking a decision on whether to proceed with the sale of the land for the proposed development.

#### **Oxford Street property holdings**

Officers are progressing a staged approach to the future redevelopment of the Oxford Street property portfolio and will be engaging with existing tenants to discuss and explore potential opportunities. An expression of interest process to seek redevelopment opportunities and future investment will be released later this year.

#### **Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green**

Updated preliminary designs were approved by Council, with The Wellington Company now progressing the consenting stage of the project. The latest designs have been included in the Levin Town Centre video released early June.

#### **Thompson House Gardens**

Stage One works to enhance the former Women's Bowling Green area within the Thompson House Gardens has been completed. The works included removing fences, constructing new accessways and pergolas, landscaping and painting to give the space a refreshed new look for the community to enjoy. The garden beds will be replanted, helping to create a beautiful and welcoming space once fully established. Work associated with stage two is yet to be confirmed.

#### **3D Digital Visualisation**

The video showcasing the aspirations and future vision for the Levin Town Centre Transformation has been completed and shared with the community through Council's communications channels. It is also being displayed as part of the Levin Town Centre Transformation exhibition at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō throughout June.

#### **Access and Parking Strategy**

The Access and Parking Strategy, which will guide future and more efficient parking management to support growth and prepare for the revocation of Oxford Street following the opening of the Ōtaki to the north of Levin expressway, was adopted by Council 27 May.

#### **Retail Transformation Strategy**

The Horowhenua Company Limited (THCL) has provided a Draft Retail Transformation Strategy, which is currently being reviewed to support the Levin Transformation Strategy programme of work.

### **Clear investment and sequencing logic toward readiness for further Town Centre 'moves'**

Council's approach has intentionally focused on sequencing early catalyst projects that build market confidence, improve amenity, and establish the foundations for further Town Centre transformation. The current investment programme has been prioritised to:

- activate key strategic sites
- improve accessibility, amenity, and public realm outcomes
- encourage private sector confidence and investment
- position the Town Centre for future redevelopment opportunities.

The sequencing of projects has been important to ensure that each initiative supports the next stage of transformation. For example, public realm improvements, access and parking planning, and redevelopment of strategic Council-owned sites collectively create the conditions necessary for further commercial investment and additional Town Centre regeneration initiatives. This staged approach enables Council to progressively deliver visible change while also improving readiness for future Town Centre 'moves', including additional mixed-use redevelopment, increased private investment interest, and broader town centre revitalisation outcomes.

### **Using Growth to position the district as a place to be and invest in.**

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#### **Realise Ō2NL opportunities**

THCL continued to coordinate local business engagement associated with Ō2NL, helping businesses understand upcoming opportunities and prepare for participation in project supply chains. The Ō2NL Register of Interest database now includes 338 businesses, including 190 local businesses and 142 Horowhenua businesses. Feedback gathered through THCL's engagement with local businesses has also helped influence improvements to the tendering process. Working with Alliance partners, THCL advocated for greater communication and feedback to businesses both before and after tender submissions, helping local firms better understand procurement requirements and improve future applications. To further support local supplier participation, a Business-to-Business (B2B) Register has been established, providing businesses with visibility of upcoming opportunities and enabling collaboration across a range of tender categories.

#### **Clear land supply and development strategy**

Officers have continued work on the Tararua Road Master Plan which included two workshops during May and June with Government Agencies and Councils from the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

Preparations are underway for Plan Change 6A to advance to a hearing in the second half of 2026. A favourable outcome from this hearing would support the rezoning of the land for future residential development.

### **Promote Horowhenua**

The release of the Levin Town Centre Transformation video early June is proving to be a valuable tool for officers to share the vision for the Levin Town Centre, while promoting Horowhenua and the opportunities to a broader audience.

### **Ōtaki to North Levin Expressway anchors our leadership and advocacy as we secure a fair revocation deal.**

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#### **Ō2NL - Revocation**

During the reporting period, Council adopted its Revocation Negotiation Strategy, providing a clear framework to guide ongoing engagement and negotiations with NZTA.

Officers continue to review the draft Revocation Assessment Reports and are working closely with NZTA to seek further information, supporting technical evidence, and underlying data to inform Council's assessment of the proposed revocation package. Regular engagement continues at both officer and executive levels, supporting a constructive working relationship and ensuring Council remains well positioned as the revocation process progresses.

#### **Ō2NL - Project Operations**

Officers continue to represent Council through project governance structures, including participation in Project Steering Committee meetings, Owner Team meetings, communications and engagement forums, and other key project workstreams. These forums provide oversight of project delivery, emerging risks, strategic decision-making, and opportunities to advocate for Council and community interests.

Work is continuing with NZTA to develop an additional schedule to the Principal Development Agreement, supporting the management of Council infrastructure interfaces and establishing clear processes for addressing project-related impacts on Council assets and services.

Discussions continue regarding interfaces between Ō2NL and Council-owned infrastructure, utilities, and future network integration requirements to ensure local assets and operational considerations are appropriately incorporated into project delivery.

Officers also continue to work with NZTA and project partners on the Tararua Road/North Island Main Trunk rail corridor interface and other key infrastructure connections to support project delivery and protect Council's long-term infrastructure interests.

Officers continue to work collaboratively with iwi submitters and project partners regarding proposed East-West Arterial consent conditions, with discussions focused on resolving outstanding matters and progressing an agreed pathway forward.

Strong working relationships continue with both North Alliance and South Alliance, enabling officers to proactively work through project challenges and emerging issues as they arise. Officers continue to advocate for Council's long-term infrastructure, transport, and community interests through project design discussions, technical reviews, and ongoing engagement with project partners.

Council's compliance and monitoring functions remain active, with officers continuing site inspections, consent monitoring activities, and regulatory oversight. Officers are also progressing assessment of the project's Outline Plan of Works and other associated approvals as required.

Monthly reporting on legacy outcomes continues to demonstrate positive benefits arising from the project, including local employment opportunities, workforce development, and economic investment within the Horowhenua district.

**We have invested in existing community facilities to ensure they are maintained at a standard that supports future growth and demand.**

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Significant improvement works were recently completed at the Levin Aquatic Centre with the dual aim of refreshing the facility and improving plant room operations. The investment has delivered both visual improvements for customers and operational benefits behind the scenes, helping to improve reliability, reduce reactive maintenance requirements and support the long-term performance of the facility.

Feedback received from both staff and customers has been overwhelmingly positive, with the improvements contributing to a more professional and well-presented environment. Importantly, the project was exceptionally well managed by the Aquatics Manager, with the works delivered on time and within budget while minimising disruption to facility users.

Routine maintenance and renewal works have continued across Council's community centres and library facilities to ensure these important community assets remain safe, functional and fit for purpose.

Detailed planning and investigation have continued for future HVAC requirements across Council facilities, including Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, with work focused on understanding long-term needs, identifying renewal options, and aligning investment with the wider Civic Building programme to maximise efficiency and building performance. In parallel, the Civic Building roofing remediation project remains on schedule and is progressing well, with no significant issues encountered. The roofing and balcony works are being carefully coordinated with the planned HVAC renewal programme to minimise disruption, maximise efficiencies, and support the long-term protection and performance of these key Council assets.

**Priority 2 – Future Fit HDC**

**We will foster an agile, high-performing Council ready to meet future challenges of government reform while delivering fit-for-purpose services to our community.**

**Adapt to legislative and structural changes that redefine Council's role, scope, and size across reforms (Local Water, Resource Management, Simplifying Local Government, Rates Capping, Systems Improvement).**

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**Central Districts Waters Transition Update**

Council Officers continue to support the Central Districts Water Establishment Team as we progress towards the transition date of 1 July 2027. Each workstream continues to progress in line with the expected outcomes with progress being made. There is a continued focus on budgets and associated costs, with work progressing on CDW establishing a line of credit and own funding prior to 1 July 2027. In the operations and assets space, work continues on developing combined asset management plans, identification of future capital works programs, and work towards the Water Services Strategy.

Internally, Council Officers are focused on identifying land, easements, approvals and contracts to include in the draft Transfer Agreement. The Transfer Agreement will cover all matters that will be transferred to Central Districts Water and the two parties to the agreement will be Horowhenua District Council and Central Districts Water.

The Shareholder's Committee has continued work on the Statement of Expectations.

### **Resource Management**

Officers are involved in two sets of regional discussions about future Regional Spatial Plans – with WRLC and with the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. Officers expect to start collaborating with regional colleagues on establishing a regional spatial planning committee to commence work on the Regional Spatial Plan.

The replacement RMA legislation is expected to pass before the next general election, however final versions of the Acts have not been released.

### **Simplifying Local Government**

On 5 May 2026, the Government announced the Head Start | Backstop process as an addition to Simplifying Local Government reform. This landed with a message that councils were to choose how to reorganise themselves or it would be done for them.

Detail remains limited but what is known is that Councils have until 9 August to submit a Head Start proposal, a “streamlined, voluntary pathway for councils willing and able to reorganise” or become part of the Backstop process.

Council pivoted quickly to reshape the Future Fit Road Map from preparing for an LTP ahead of a rates capping environment to focus on Head Start | Backstop, connecting with the LTP to ensure Council and the district is prepared for the option Council agrees before the 9 August deadline.

### **Systems Improvement**

The Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill is still before Parliament, sitting second on Parliament's Order Paper. This Bill changes the purpose of local government, removes the four wellbeings, updates core services and activities, and provides for a standard Code of Conduct and set of Standing Orders.

### **Continuous Improvement for Customer Outcomes**

The 2026 Resident Satisfaction Survey was completed during this reporting period, providing Council with current community feedback across key service areas and identifying areas of strength and opportunities for improvement.

A Customer Focus Governance Group was established to bring together customer-focused initiatives from across the organisation, providing a mechanism for shared oversight and prioritisation of improvement opportunities.

Customer pulse-check surveying continued in March, before being paused for April and May to support participation in the annual resident satisfaction survey. Pulse-check surveys are sent to customers who lodged a service request with Council to directly seek feedback about their experience.

### **Maintain strong safety, compliance and risk management systems**

A dedicated RMA Monitoring and Compliance Officer position has been established to support Council's regulatory responsibilities for Ō2NL. The role provides additional capacity to manage the increased monitoring and compliance workload generated by Ō2NL while maintaining service levels and responsiveness across Council's wider RMA compliance and monitoring programme.

A number of complex compliance and enforcement matters were managed during the reporting period, including Environment Court proceedings and matters requiring cross-agency engagement.

### **Position HDC as a leader in reform opportunities for funding and collaboration.**

#### **Horizons Mayoral Forum**

The Government's announcement on 5 May 2026 of the Head Start | Backstop pathways for local government reform presents a significant opportunity for councils to proactively shape the future structure and delivery of local government services.

Horowhenua District Council has responded quickly to these reform opportunities, taking a leadership role in initiating discussions with neighbouring councils across the Horizons region regarding potential collaboration and future governance arrangements. Through these conversations, HDC is seeking to ensure that regional perspectives are considered early and that any future reform delivers better outcomes for communities while strengthening local government sustainability.

A key principle guiding Council's approach is that community voice must remain central to any discussion about the future of local government. To support this, Council is currently undertaking community consultation through its Future Fit | Head Start engagement programme. The consultation seeks feedback from residents on the opportunities and challenges presented by local government reform and how Horowhenua should position itself for the future.

By combining regional leadership with a strong commitment to community engagement, HDC is positioning itself as a proactive participant in local government reform, ensuring that both regional opportunities and local aspirations are considered as the sector navigates significant change.

#### **Wellington Mayoral Forum**

While progressing discussions within the Horizons region, Council is also keeping a close watching brief on developments to the south through the Wellington Mayoral Forum. HDC continues to show a strong interest in the Forum's consideration of the Government's Head Start process and will monitor outcomes closely, recognising that decisions made across the wider lower North Island may influence future opportunities for collaboration.

This approach ensures Council remains informed of emerging reform pathways and is well placed to advocate for the best interests of Horowhenua as discussions evolve across neighbouring regions.

#### **Organisation Readiness / Resilience / Culture**

Results of the ComplyWith legislative survey conducted in March 2026 have been reviewed and action plans will continue to be progressed by Council officers, with regular updates reported to the Risk and Assurance Committee throughout the year. Compliance levels remain high for HDC, reflecting the strong commitment from Council officers to maintaining compliance and proactively addressing any identified gaps. This work supports compliance by strengthening controls, identifying areas for improvement, and promoting consistent adherence to legislative obligations across the organisation.

#### **Ensure governance and decision-making frameworks remain robust and future-proof to support community voice.**

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#### **Foxton and Foxton Beach Community Plan**

The Foxton Futures Governance Group continues to show strong momentum, with increased collaboration across theme leads and growing community engagement. A key milestone has been the launch of the Foxton Futures SharePoint workspace, improving coordination, information sharing, and transparency across workstreams. An agreed process is now in place to publicly release governance minutes following confirmation, alongside a structured approach to capturing and promoting community good news stories through council channels and local media.

Progress across themes includes advancement of visitor signage planning, heritage site identification and storytelling, environmental monitoring and education initiatives, and delivery of transport and safety improvements. Community-driven projects and events remain active, with ongoing support for local groups.

A clear focus has emerged on improving coordination of signage and streamlining council processes. In response, a cross-theme workshop is being planned to strengthen alignment, remove barriers, and support more integrated delivery.

### Shannon/Otāuru Community Plan

The Shannon Working Group has continued to build strong momentum, meeting regularly to progress community priorities, funding opportunities, and future planning. Council officers work closely with group members, and external partners to support the group's development and ensure action points continue to move forward.

Key achievements include securing \$6,836 in funding from Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa for a community Play Station, and progressing proposals for outdoor fitness equipment in partnership with Sport Manawatū. Sport Manawatū has successfully secured external funding towards the fitness equipment project, with early discussions underway regarding delivery options and potential co-funding arrangements as part of the Shannon Community Plan. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$100,000 and has the potential to provide an additional recreational asset that supports health and wellbeing outcomes for the Shannon community. Several other funding opportunities and quick-win projects have also been identified through the Council budget process.

The group has also focused on strengthening its long-term direction through discussions on governance, shared priorities, and the Shannon Brand – One Vision, Stronger Together framework. As part of the group's ongoing growth, transition planning has commenced.

Work is also underway to establish a shared digital platform, helping members stay connected and access key information and resources.

### Priority 3 – Financial Discipline

**We will manage rates and funding wisely to keep services affordable and investments sustainable.**

**Strict budget monitoring and compliance with financial strategy, and balanced budget goals.**

As part of an ongoing focus on financial discipline and ensuring services are delivered as efficiently as possible, Horowhenua Libraries has reviewed its Homelink delivery service and implemented a more sustainable operating model. Deliveries will now be undertaken on Wednesdays only, with service areas alternating weekly and routes optimised to reduce travel time and fuel costs. The team has also proactively sought external support, applying to the Friends of Horowhenua Libraries for funding to offset fuel expenses and help maintain the service into the future. Importantly, these changes have been designed to preserve access to library services for residents who are unable to visit a library in person, while ensuring Council resources are being used responsibly. Feedback from users has been largely positive, with many recognising the need to adapt service delivery models to ensure they remain viable over the long term.

**Procure wisely and strategically, to prioritise spending on essential services and projects that deliver the highest value to the community.**

### 2026/27 Annual Plan

On 27 May 2026 Council adopted the Annual Plan 2026/27. This confirmed a 7.5% increase which anticipated to reduce to 5.8% after an anticipated 1.7% growth. The 7.5% is the result

of direction by Council and work by officers to bring down the rates increase of 11.6% forecast in the LTP.

Ahead of adoption of the Annual Plan Council received advice about the impacts of the fuel supply issue and considered whether to increase the rates to reflect the higher costs Council was facing from contracts and/or ahead of the expected introduction of rates capping. Council agreed to hold the rates increase at 7.5%. The rates for 2026/27 are scheduled to be set at the Council Meeting on 24 June 2026.

#### **Deliver a disciplined and future-focused Long Term Plan 2027**

Between May and June there have been three further Future Fit/LTP workshops, pivoting to encompass the Head Start process. In these workshops, Council developed principles to guide Head Start discussions, a timeline for the process, developed new draft Community Outcomes, reflecting the current and expected environments, and has identified three areas to carry out a deep dive into services provided: Community Facilities and Services, Property, and Recycling and Waste Minimisation.

Despite the short timeframe, Council wanted to find out the community appetite for amalgamation, what is important to the community, as well as matters to consider in relation to the three deep dive topics. Council commenced community engagement sessions on 3 June and has a series of sessions planned throughout the district.

#### **Development of the Annual Report 2025/26**

The project team, together with supporting staff across the organisation, are preparing for year-end processes and compiling the Annual Report. A further interim audit is scheduled for late June, with the full audit commencing in September.

#### **Targeted Savings**

A \$1 million operating savings target was set for the current financial year. While there have been a number of challenges to achieving that target from unplanned cost pressures, including recent storm events and fuel price increases, the organisation has been working to identify additional potential savings across the organisation and to realise those savings. As a result of this hard work we are now forecasting to achieve this target.

#### **Aquatic, Sporting and Recreation Provision Options for LTP**

While detailed discussions regarding aquatic, sporting and recreation provision options for the next Long Term Plan are yet to commence, Councillors recently participated in a workshop on the Strategic Recreation Investment Framework. The workshop reinforced the importance of having a clear and consistent approach to recreation investment decision-making and provided direction on how future opportunities should be assessed and presented.

#### **Strategic Coherence of Recreation Investment Options**

A workshop was held with Councillors to discuss how Council approaches strategic recreation investment across the district. The discussion recognised the value of the Strategic Recreation Investment Framework in providing a consistent and evidence-based

approach to decision-making, while also acknowledging that demand for recreation infrastructure continues to exceed available funding. See page 73 'Strategic Recreation Investment Framework' table.

### **Optimise Property, Leases & Community Assets**

Recent review of all property leases and an assessment of the alignment of each from a community and commercial context has been completed and will be presented as part of the wider property portfolio deep dive which is currently in progress. This includes a review of the Community Leases Policy. The aim is to improve how we manage and optimise the leasing portfolio, seeking to lift revenue and utilisation across council owned properties.

### **Property Portfolio: Sales & Acquisition Options**

Currently reviewing and categorising the council wide property portfolio, with a view to providing clear direction re the way forward through a utilisation, revenue, acquisition, community, cultural and commercial lens around value and return to our ratepayers.

Options will consider the future direction of the council property portfolio and the mechanisms that may be employed now and into the future to optimise the value derived from these council assets.

The initial review of the full portfolio and proposed direction is due to be presented to council in the coming months.

### **Delivery of Land Transport capital programme**

The Land Transport team continues to deliver Council's transport maintenance and renewal programme, with a strong focus on improving network safety, accessibility, resilience and long-term asset performance across the district.

During the reporting period, significant progress has been made on a range of infrastructure improvement projects. Footpath renewal works on Dorset Street have enhanced pedestrian accessibility and improved the condition of this key community asset, while drainage improvements in Thomas Place have strengthened stormwater management and reduced the risk of localised flooding.

Road maintenance activities have also continued, including asphalt resurfacing works on Hokio Beach Road outside Crighton's. These improvements have enhanced ride quality and extended the operational life of the road surface.

The rehabilitation programme remains on track, with major works completed on CD Farm Road and Whirokino Road. These projects have improved pavement condition, increased network resilience and enhanced travel reliability for road users.

Construction activities on Bruce Road are progressing well and include both pavement rehabilitation and road widening. These improvements will strengthen the route's safety and functionality, with completion anticipated by the end of June.

Alongside these capital works, the team continues to deliver district-wide maintenance programmes, including footpath renewals, drainage upgrades, pavement resurfacing and

responsive maintenance activities. Planning and preparation are also underway for the upcoming summer maintenance and renewal season to ensure continued investment in a safe, reliable and fit-for-purpose transport network.

**Review funding policies and settings to consider if rates and user fees and charges could be shared differently.**

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**Fees and Charges**

Consultation on the Resource Management Act fees and charges was carried out as required under the RMA. Consultation on the full Fees and Charges schedule was not required as it was consistent with direction in the Revenue & Financing Policy (part of the LTP). However, it was made public.

At the 29 April 2026 Council meeting Council received the submissions on the RMA Fees & Charges and heard one oral submission. Council also endorsed the draft Fees & Charges Schedule ahead of adoption.

**Future Fit Roadmap and Funding Approach**

Council is working through a series of direction setting workshops during the month of June to align community outcomes and strategic priorities with key financial policy development and budget guidance for staff. Work will be required on council's rating mechanisms to remain within the legislative 30% cap for uniform charges once three waters transitions.

**Advocacy for fair funding models and external investment opportunities.**

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**Investment (Property) Portfolio**

As mentioned above, Further work is currently underway in relation to the Investment (Property) Portfolio, including the review and categorisation of Council-owned investment and strategic property assets across the district. This work is being undertaken through a number of lenses, with the aim of providing clearer direction on the future role and performance of the portfolio. Consideration is also being given to the mechanisms and approaches that may be utilised now and into the future to optimise the value, sustainability and return derived from these assets for the benefit of the wider community and Council's ratepayers.

**Chase external funding opportunities.**

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**Funding for Matariki Event Programme**

Electra has committed \$5,000 to enable the delivery of the 2026 Matariki Programme of events. Electra advised that the programme aligns strongly with its community sponsorship objectives. Successfully securing external funding allows Council to leverage additional investment into the district, stretching available resources further while continuing to deliver programmes that benefit the community.

**Levinable Project Achieves Funding Milestone**

The Levinable Project has achieved a significant funding milestone, marking an important step forward in delivering this community-focused initiative.

In February, an application was submitted to ECCT seeking funding for Stage One of the project, which includes the installation of the playground surface and equipment. The application was successful, securing a grant of \$100,000. This substantial contribution reflects strong confidence in the project's vision and community benefits and represents a major step towards bringing Levinable to life.

To secure the remaining funding required for Stage One, the Project Team will apply to the Lotteries Grants Board once its new funding criteria are released in July. Subject to the project meeting eligibility requirements, an application will seek approximately \$108,000, which would complete the funding required to proceed with Stage One along with the \$92k funding that was secured last year.

Further progress has also been made through an application to the Levin Charitable Trust seeking \$15,000 towards the construction of the park's fale. The fale will provide an important gathering space and sheltered area, enhancing the park's functionality and supporting community connection and inclusion.

### **The Farm Track - Funding Applications Submitted**

In February, a funding application was submitted to ECCT to support stage two of The Farm Track, extending the track to Moutere Road. Although the application was scheduled for consideration at the May Board meeting, it was withdrawn following a change in project direction by The Farm Track Group.

A revised funding application will be submitted to ECCT for consideration at the July Board meeting. The application will seek funding for the installation of the pathway from The Farm Track entrance on Hokio Beach Road through to Bruce Road.

An application has also been submitted to the Levin Charitable Trust seeking \$25,000 to support the installation of cultural interpretation panels and storyboards, native planting, and landscape enhancement works.

Z Energy's Good in the Hood programme is currently open for applications, with a total of \$5,000 available to be granted locally. An application has been submitted in support of The Farm Track Project, specifically for native planting and landscape enhancement. If selected, customers will be able to vote for their preferred charity or project using tokens provided in-store. The proportion of votes received will determine the share of funding allocated to the project.

### **Horowhenua Lake Domain Board Seeks Funding**

An application has been submitted to the Levin Charitable Trust seeking \$15,000 to support native planting and the installation of seating within the playground area.

If successful, the funding will contribute to progressing actions identified in the Lake Domain (Muaūpoko Park) Development Plan, supporting the creation of an attractive and welcoming environment that whānau and the wider community can once again enjoy and take pride in.

### **Whakamana Marae Community Resilience Project Funding Options**

Officers have continued to actively pursue external funding opportunities for the Whakamana Marae Community Resilience Project through the EECA Community Resilience Programme, which provides funding for solar, battery storage and resilience upgrades at marae and community facilities across the district. Significant work has been undertaken to assess potential sites, engage with marae and community partners, and develop a programme that maximises community resilience outcomes.

The programme has the potential to secure approximately \$462,000 in external funding for Horowhenua Marae. In parallel, officers are actively engaged in co-funding discussions with a number of external funding organisations, including Te Puni Kōkiri, Lotteries and the ECCT, to support the local contribution required for the project.

If successful, the programme will strengthen community resilience, support emergency response capability and improve the ability of key community facilities to remain operational during significant disruption events.

### Strategic Recreation Investment Framework

SITE	AREA	PROJECT	STAGE OF THE PROCESS	IMPACT ASSESSMENT		NETWORK CRITICALITY	COUNCIL'S ROLE & INVESTMENT			WHEN?	LAST ASSESSMENT DATE
				SCORE	ASSESSMENT		ROLE	SOUGHT (\$)	COMMITTED (\$)		
Donnelly Park	Levin	Premier cricket oval upgrades	Proof of Viability	66	HIGH	HIGH	PARTNER			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Increase floodlit provision	Design	70	HIGH	HIGH	OWN & OPERATE			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Playford Park	Levin	Explore opportunities to increase floodlit training capacity	Proof of Viability	81	HIGH	HIGH	OWN & OPERATE			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Various	Levin	Expand aquatic provision for the Levin/Central/South catchment	Proof of Viability	79	HIGH	HIGH	OWN & OPERATE			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Explore building response options	Proof of Viability	72	HIGH	HIGH	ENABLER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Domain	Levin	Complete required seismic strengthening of the Levin Domain grandstand	Proof of Viability	69	HIGH	HIGH	PARTNER	\$1,300,000		7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Easton Park	Foxton	Install irrigation and explore increasing floodlight coverage	Design	58	MEDIUM	HIGH	OWN & OPERATE			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Easton Park	Foxton	Roof replacement of the Easton Park grandstand	Design	57	MEDIUM	HIGH	OWN	\$383k		1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Horowhenua College	Levin	Explore covered court provision at Horowhenua College	Proof of Viability	62	MEDIUM	HIGH	PARTNER			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Explore covered court provision at the Netball Centre	Proof of Viability	64	MEDIUM	HIGH	PARTNER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Domain	Levin	Explore options to address the cracks and drainage issues [courts 1-4] at the Levin Tennis Club	Design	63	MEDIUM	HIGH	ENABLER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Domain	Levin	Explore options to improve and expand court floodlighting at the Levin Tennis Club	Design	63	MEDIUM	HIGH	ENABLER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Western Park	Levin	Extend the existing backstop netting	Complete	58	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	OWN			1-3 YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Expand cricket pitch provision [additional grass block]	Design	62	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	OWN & OPERATE			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Explore possible irrigation of some fields which incorporate winter uses	Proof of Viability	63	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	OWN & OPERATE			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Various	Levin	Explore all-weather training options to support sports field winter users	Proof of Viability	57	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	PARTNER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Shannon Domain	Shannon	Upgrade the field platform to sand-based with irrigation	Proof of Viability	53	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	OWN & OPERATE			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Showgrounds	Levin	Explore additional indoor court provision at the Horowhenua Sports Centre	Proof of Viability	58	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	PARTNER			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Centralise diamond sports to optimise fit-for-purpose facilities	Proof of Need	57	MEDIUM	LOW	PARTNER			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Shannon Domain	Shannon	Complete required seismic strengthening of the Shannon Domain grandstand	Proof of Viability	47	LOW	HIGH	OWN	\$719,000		7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Various	Levin	Explore satellite venues to support floodlit training capacity if Playford Park cannot accommodate more	Proof of Need	47	LOW	MEDIUM	PARTNER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Domain	Levin	Resolve the future of the Levin Squash Club by providing clarity on the proposed aquatic hub development project. Address the	Proof of Viability	47	LOW	MEDIUM	ENABLER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Levin Domain	Levin	Explore improvements to Court 6 at Levin Tennis Club (publicly accessible courts)	Proof of Viability	49	LOW	MEDIUM	PARTNER			4-6 YEARS	19/08/2025
Shannon School	Shannon	Investigate facility condition to maintain provision	Proof of Need	44	LOW	MEDIUM	PARTNER			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Easton Park	Foxton	Explore the development of a multiuse court space to support netball and rugby training	Proof of Need	46	LOW	MEDIUM	ENABLER			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Increase the number of outdoor cricket lanes	Proof of Need	44	LOW	LOW	OWN			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Donnelly Park	Levin	Develop an additional full-sized football field	Proof of Need	47	LOW	LOW	OWN & OPERATE			7+ YEARS	19/08/2025
Ohau Domain	Ohau	Moving the field closer to the pavilion	Design	47	LOW	LOW	OWN & OPERATE			1-3 YEARS	27/05/2026
Shannon Domain	Shannon	Installation of exercise equipment	Build	60	MEDIUM	LOW	PARTNER	\$50k		1-3 YEARS	27/05/2026

## E noho ana i ā mātou uara | Living Our Values

**Mahi Tahī - We are one team, stronger together as we work with and for our community to deliver outcomes that matter.**

**#Arohatōmahi - We love our work and know that our work matters. That is why we do what we say we will do and apply energy and enthusiasm across our mahi.**

### Taituarā Management Challenge

#### Living Our Values Through Leadership Development

In April 2026, six wāhine from Horowhenua District Council participated in the Taituarā Management Challenge in Lower Hutt.



*Wāhine Toa o Horowhenua*

The challenge saw participants step into the shoes of senior leaders at the fictional "Upper Glasgow Council", working through ten complex scenarios designed to test their leadership, decision-making, and collaboration skills. It provided a unique opportunity to explore areas of local government they may not ordinarily be exposed to and gain insight into the broader workings of Council.

The team, *Wāhine Toa o Horowhenua*, spent time preparing together beforehand, building their understanding of Council operations and strengthening the way they worked as a

group. This preparation proved invaluable on the day, enabling them to draw on each other's strengths, support one another under pressure, and work effectively through the challenges presented.

While each team member took away something different from the experience, common themes emerged. For some, it was the opportunity to step outside their comfort zone; for others, it was gaining a deeper understanding of their leadership style and capabilities. Above all, the challenge inspired participants to apply their learnings within their own sphere of influence and contribute even more strongly to the success of Council.

The experience reflected our organisational values by fostering collaboration, continuous learning, courage, and leadership. Participants gained valuable insights into their strengths, broadened their understanding of local government, and developed greater confidence in their ability to lead and influence outcomes. The challenge reinforced the importance of working together, drawing on diverse perspectives, and embracing opportunities for growth to better serve our communities.

The winner of the Management Challenge will be announced at the annual Taitūara Excellence Awards on 18 June.

## Pūrongo Ahumoni Whakarāpopoto | Financial Summary Report

### Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense to 31 May 2026

	Actual Full year to 31 May 2026 \$000	Budget Full year to 31 May 2026 \$000	Variance Full year to 31 May 2026 \$000	Forecast Full Year 2025/26 \$000	Budget Full Year 2025/26 \$000	Variance Full Year 2025/26 \$000	Notes
<b>Revenue</b>							
Rates Revenue	63,378	62,969	409	69,179	68,694	485	
Operational Grants & Subsidies	3,136	3,065	71	3,529	3,344	185	
Fees & Charges	5,629	4,778	851	6,215	5,213	1,002	1
Other Revenue	5,353	4,574	780	6,562	4,937	1,625	2
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>77,497</b>	<b>75,386</b>	<b>2,111</b>	<b>85,485</b>	<b>82,188</b>	<b>3,297</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Employee Benefit Expenses	22,003	22,519	517	23,885	24,689	804	
Other Expenses	31,697	31,507	(190)	36,313	34,947	(1,366)	3
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>53,699</b>	<b>54,026</b>	<b>327</b>	<b>60,199</b>	<b>59,636</b>	<b>(563)</b>	
Finance Income	2,084	-	2,084	2,149	-	2,149	
Finance Costs	8,678	9,031	353	9,322	9,852	530	
<b>Net Interest</b>	<b>6,594</b>	<b>9,031</b>	<b>2,437</b>	<b>7,173</b>	<b>9,852</b>	<b>2,679</b>	4
<b>Operating surplus/(deficit) before capital revenue and taxation</b>	<b>17,203</b>	<b>12,328</b>	<b>4,875</b>	<b>18,113</b>	<b>12,699</b>	<b>5,413</b>	
<b>Capital Items</b>							
<b>Revenue</b>							
Capital Grants and Subsidies	5,751	5,102	649	6,709	5,566	1,144	
Development Contributions	1,636	1,985	(349)	1,757	2,166	(409)	5
Vested Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of financial liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Investment (Gains)/Losses	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other gains	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Capital related Revenue</b>	<b>7,387</b>	<b>7,087</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>8,466</b>	<b>7,731</b>	<b>735</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>							
(Gain)/Loss on sale of assets	0	-	(0)	(1)	-	1	
Depreciation and Amortisation	21,477	21,437	(40)	23,426	23,386	(40)	
Loss on Derivatives	(1,111)	-	1,111	(1,111)	-	1,111	6
<b>Total Capital related Expenditure</b>	<b>20,366</b>	<b>21,437</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>22,313</b>	<b>23,386</b>	<b>1,073</b>	
<b>Total Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>4,224</b>	<b>(2,021)</b>	<b>6,246</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>(2,955)</b>	<b>7,221</b>	
<b>Other Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses</b>							
Gain / (Loss) Fixed Assets Valuation	-	-	-	-	-	-	
<b>Total Comprehensive Income for the year</b>	<b>4,224</b>	<b>(2,021)</b>	<b>6,246</b>	<b>4,266</b>	<b>(2,955)</b>	<b>7,221</b>	

### Explanations of significant variances

A \$1 million operating savings target was set for the current financial year. While there have been a number of challenges to achieving that target from unplanned cost pressures, including recent storm events and fuel price increases, the organisation has been working to identify additional potential savings across the organisation and to realise those savings. As a result of this hard work we are now forecasting to achieve savings that align with earlier targets.

Note 1 Fees and Charges: favourable, mainly due to Solid Waste Recycling rebates being higher than budgeted which includes \$453k that was carried forward from the 2024/25 financial year.

Note 2 Other Revenue: favourable, includes unbudgeted CD Waters recoveries from partner Councils.

Note 3 Other Expenses: unfavourable, with further detail in the following table. The substantial variance relates to the CD Waters costs which are being administered by HDC and recovered by way of invoice to the other parties.

Other Expenses	Actual 31 May 2026 \$000	Budget 31 May 2026 \$000	Variance 31 May 2026 \$000	Forecast 2025/26 \$000	Budget 2025/26 \$000	Variance 2025/26 \$000
Professional Services	5,952	6,395	442	7,008	7,055	46
Materials	728	620	(108)	795	677	(118)
Maintenance	13,452	13,558	106	14,707	14,790	83
Bank Fees	120	66	(53)	130	72	(58)
Insurance Brokerage	-	23	23	-	25	25
Grants Paid	313	602	289	187	657	470
Utilities	1,747	1,713	(34)	1,909	1,869	(41)
Communications	179	181	2	195	198	3
Vehicle Expenses	583	614	31	647	681	34
Other Treasury Expenses	154	129	(25)	171	141	(30)
Postage	-	-	-	-	-	-
Labour Recoveries for Capex projects	(2,554)	(3,356)	(803)	(3,203)	(3,662)	(458)
Other Expenses	11,022	10,962	(60)	13,767	12,445	(1,322)
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>31,697</b>	<b>31,507</b>	<b>(190)</b>	<b>36,313</b>	<b>34,947</b>	<b>(1,366)</b>

Note 4 net Interest: favourable, we are monitoring market interest rates closely especially with recent global events as well as utilising hedging strategies.

Note 5 Development Contributions: unfavourable, subdivision activity has been lower than expected.

Note 6 Loss on Derivatives: unfavourable, the variance primarily reflects non-cash losses on interest rate swaps arising from changes in market interest rates, which are generally offset by corresponding balance sheet movements.

## Statement of Financial Position as at 31 May 2026

	Actual Full year to 31 May 2026 \$000	Budget Full Year 2025/26 \$000	Council Actual Full Year 2024/25 \$000
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	10,157	4,419	15,192
Debtors and other receivables	17,709	5,265	14,208
Inventories	133	-	133
Derivative financial instruments	964	-	302
Other financial assets	11,944	8,467	50,812
Non-current assets held for sale	1,518	-	1,942
Property, Plant and Equipment	994,285	1,054,603	991,197
Intangible assets	1,391	1,358	1,387
Forestry assets	1,446	1,439	1,446
Commercial property	3,015	2,927	3,015
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>1,042,560</b>	<b>1,078,478</b>	<b>1,079,634</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors & Other Payables	12,796	15,659	19,023
Provisions	14,670	9,469	14,811
Employee benefit liabilities	2,545	2,390	2,566
Derivative financial instruments	1,024	-	1,473
Borrowings and other financial liabilities	206,003	217,477	240,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>237,038</b>	<b>244,995</b>	<b>277,873</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>805,522</b>	<b>833,483</b>	<b>801,761</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained earnings	239,877	250,497	236,757
Revaluation reserves	555,660	573,043	555,005
Other reserves	9,985	9,943	9,999
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>805,522</b>	<b>833,483</b>	<b>801,761</b>

### Explanations of significant variances

Debtors and other receivables – This is in line with the same period last year and impairment is completed at financial year end (June).

Other financial assets:

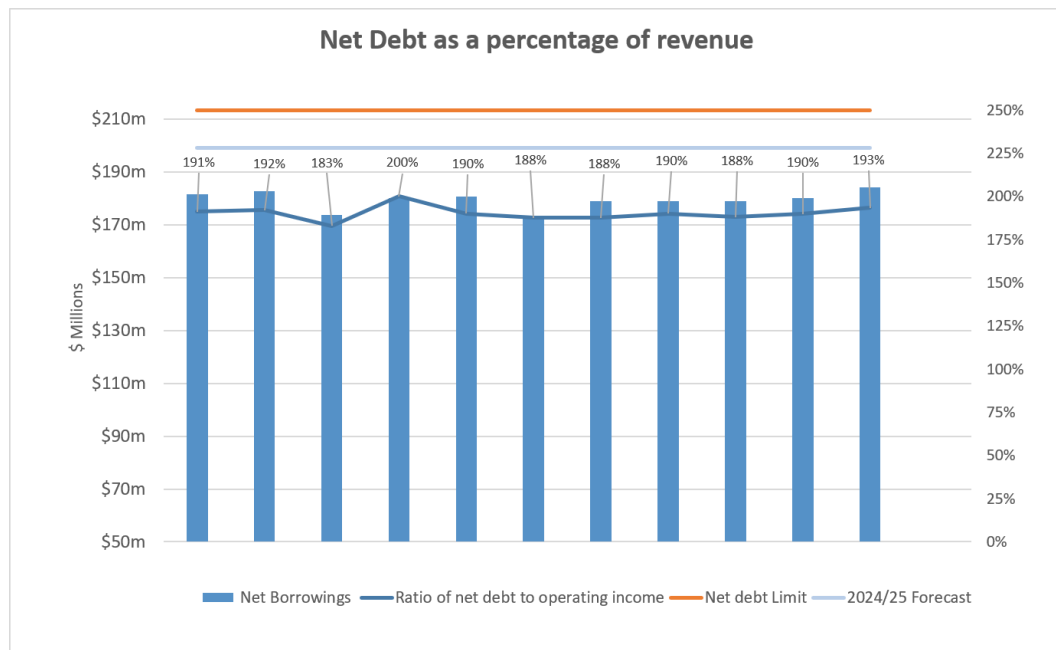
- Term deposits totalling \$38m were utilised to repay maturing loans in April and May 2026 leaving \$5m for loan repayment in July 2026.
- LGFA Borrower notes \$6.3m which relate to LGFA loans held.

### Treasury Update to 31 May 2026

As at 31 May 2026, Council had \$206m of current external debt, down from \$240m at the end of June 2025. This is due to the Council receiving \$4m interest free loan from National Infrastructure Funding (NIFF) previously Crown Infrastructure Partners (CIP).

Council also holds \$5.35m on term deposit, of which \$5m is pre-funding to repay debt in July 2026, with \$38m from term deposits used to repay debt in this financial year. In addition, Council has a \$7m BNZ flexible loan facility, and a \$20m facility with the LGFA (Local Government Funding Agency).

Our net debt (total borrowings less term deposits, borrower notes and cash) as 31 May 2026 was \$184.2m, equating to 193% of operating income – which is below the limit of \$250% set out in the 2024-44 Long Term Plan for 2025/26. Our full year forecast position is currently expected to be under the 230% that was forecasted in the 2026/27 Annual Plan.

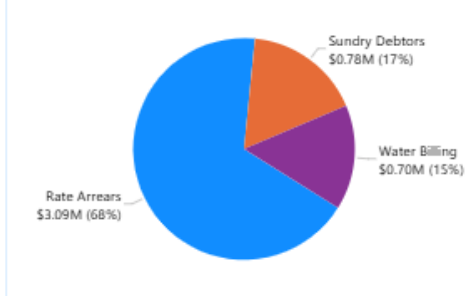


## Debtors Analysis to 31 May 2026

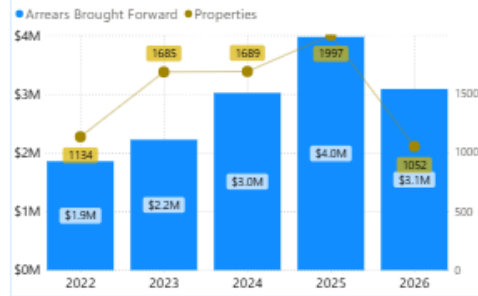
Dashboard Data as at 31 May 2026 (Preliminary and unaudited)

### DEBTORS REPORT

Total Debt ( Over 90 Days )



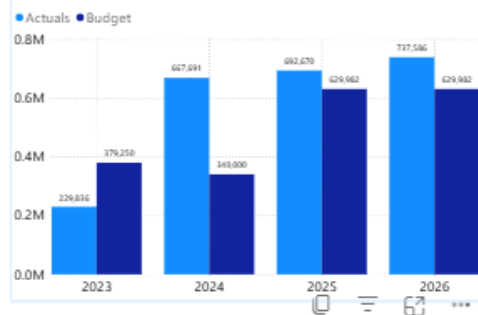
Property Rates Arrears



Arrears By Rate Zone

Rate Zone	Total Arrears	Properties
Foxton	\$373,166	108
Foxton Beach	\$121,655	64
Hokio Beach	\$155,668	15
Levin	\$1,142,021	435
Manakau	\$1,498	2
Non Rateable	\$7,339	3
Ohau	\$18,729	7
Rural Farming	\$409,795	132
Rural Other	\$490,973	169
Shannon	\$272,854	72
Tokomaru	\$21,691	11
Waikawa Beach	\$5,617	3
Waitarene Beach	\$64,678	31
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,085,685</b>	<b>1052</b>

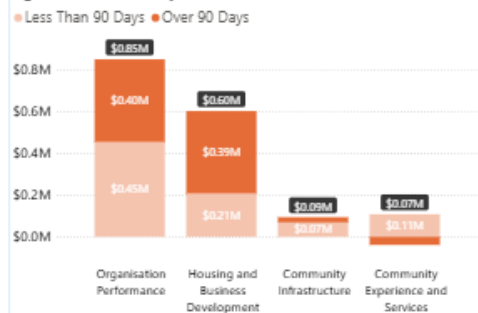
Rates Remission



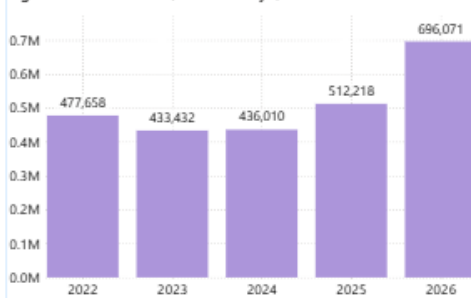
Top 10 Debtors Over 90 Days

Debtor Number	Business Group	Category	Balance
101113	Organisation Performance	General	578,421.30
215665	Housing and Business Development	Building Consents	40,373.00
214862	Housing and Business Development	Resource Consent Fees	24,511.27
214583	Housing and Business Development	Building Consents	19,505.00
206885	Housing and Business Development	Resource Consent Fees	17,116.38
215543	Community Experience and Services	Rental Income Monthly	14,170.00
212045	Housing and Business Development	Building Consents	13,886.30
215059	Housing and Business Development	Building Consents	12,467.00
216109	Housing and Business Development	Building Consents	11,655.50
100521	Community Infrastructure	Rubbish Bags	11,600.00

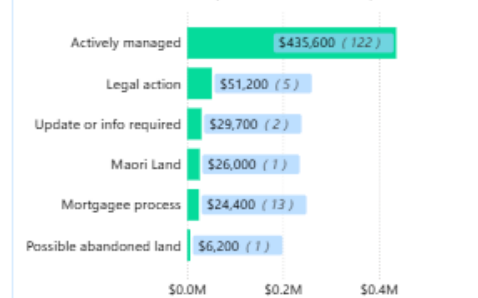
Aged Debtors Sundry



Aged Water Balance (Over 90 Days)



Debt Collection Overview ( Amount and Items )



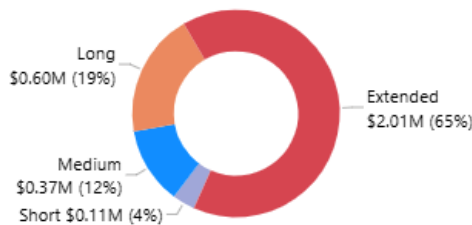
## Rates Debt Management Overview

31 May 2026

Latest Arrears Quarter



● Short ● Medium ● Long ● Extended



### Short Term Arrears

with 1-2 consecutive Arrears behind from latest Quarter

### Medium Term Arrears

with 3-4 consecutive Arrears behind from latest Quarter

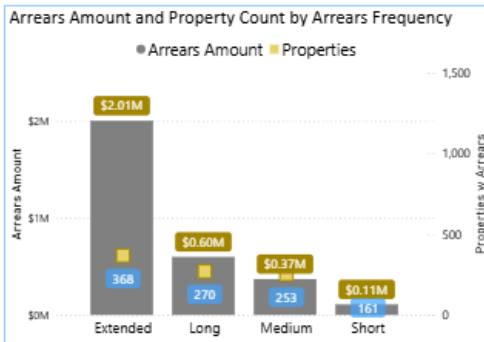
### Long Term Arrears

with 5-8 consecutive Arrears behind from latest Quarter

### Extended Term Arrears

with 9 or more consecutive Arrears behind from latest Quarter

\*Arrears Over \$99



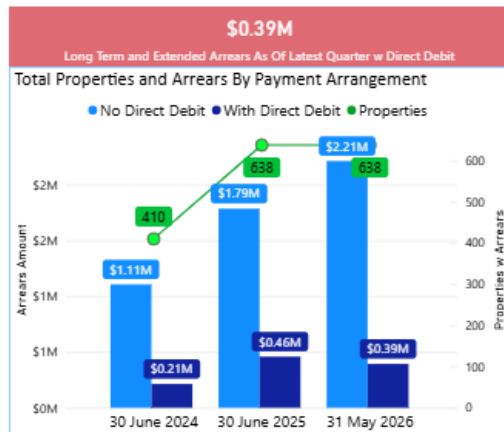
Total Arrears and Properties By Zone

Quarter	30 June 2024		30 June 2025		31 May 2026	
Rate Zone	Arrears	Properties	Arrears	Properties	Arrears	Properties
Foxton	\$311,891	156	\$439,514	184	\$373,166	108
Foxton Beach	\$180,317	130	\$280,396	147	\$121,655	64
Hokio Beach	\$112,363	21	\$146,924	29	\$155,668	15
Levin	\$1,124,022	689	\$1,399,631	826	\$1,142,021	435
Manakau	\$4,432	4	\$2,665	3	\$1,498	2
Non Rateable	\$12,712	8	\$5,971	6	\$7,339	3
Ohau	\$21,369	17	\$19,286	13	\$18,729	7
Rural Farming	\$339,624	160	\$373,385	159	\$409,795	132
Rural Other	\$443,205	284	\$613,509	313	\$490,973	169
Shannon	\$325,383	99	\$417,099	101	\$272,854	72
Tokomaru	\$26,365	21	\$31,600	19	\$21,691	11
Utilities	\$581	1	\$1,266	1		
Waikawa	\$21,056	21	\$17,991	19	\$5,617	3
Beach						
Waitarere	\$95,436	78	\$108,059	74	\$64,678	31
Beach						
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,018,755</b>	<b>1689</b>	<b>\$3,857,294</b>	<b>1894</b>	<b>\$3,085,685</b>	<b>1052</b>

### 5+ Consecutive Arrears Quarter Period (Long Term and Extended Term Arrears Frequency)

**\$2.61M**  
Overall Long Term and Extended Arrears As Of Latest Quarter

Arrangement Status	No Direct Debit		With Direct Debit		Total	
	Arrears	Properties	Arrears	Properties	Arrears	Properties
Levin	\$706,707	168	\$214,788	85	\$921,495	253
Rural Other	\$357,253	88	\$55,827	21	\$413,081	109
Rural Farming	\$349,384	76	\$1,724	1	\$351,108	77
Foxton	\$265,415	55	\$62,635	14	\$328,050	69
Shannon	\$228,963	39	\$20,116	10	\$249,079	49
Hokio Beach	\$151,075	11	\$1,971	1	\$153,046	12
Foxton Beach	\$85,597	31	\$8,323	6	\$93,920	37
Waitarere Beach	\$30,404	11	\$25,901	9	\$56,305	20
Ohau	\$17,416	4			\$17,416	4
Tokomaru	\$13,264	4	\$1,983	1	\$15,247	5
Non Rateable	\$3,870	1			\$3,870	1
Waikawa Beach	\$2,682	1			\$2,682	1
Beach	\$867	1			\$867	1
Manakau	\$867	1			\$867	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,212,896</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>\$393,267</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>\$2,606,163</b>	<b>638</b>



## Finance Team Update and Work Plan Delivery

Strong organisational focus on cost management and continuous improvement has enabled the identification and delivery of additional savings to offset unplanned expenditure pressures, including those arising from recent storm events and fuel price increases. This work has placed the organisation in a position to forecast achievement of the \$1 million savings target by 30 June 2026.

### What we are delivering

The Finance team has continued to enhance the customer experience through improvements to service responsiveness and accessibility. Ongoing efforts to reduce response times for rates enquiries continues to deliver positive results with the community, while increased uptake of electronic invoicing continues to deliver improved convenience for customers and supporting more efficient service delivery.

Significant progress has also been made in strengthening the organisation's risk management capability. A comprehensive review and update of Council's Risk Policy and Risk Management Framework have been completed and presented to Council. Implementation of the framework is now underway, with staff programmes and initiatives being rolled out across the organisation to embed a consistent and proactive approach to risk management.

The Finance team is partnering with Capability and Transformation unit and working with PwC progressing within our taxation compliance programme and a focus on Payroll Analytics.

Work is well underway with planning and engagement with the business for the upcoming financial year end, Annual Report processes and working with our external Auditors including being in a position to this year close out current Auditor continuous improvement recommendations.

## 2025/26 Statement of Service Performance (SSPs)

### Summary

Status	
On track	29
Not on track	10
Unable to Report	5
Not Applicable	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>47</b>

### Water Supply

#### Safe Water Supply measures

The Department of Internal Affairs updated the mandatory 'Safe Water Supply' measure in its Non-Financial Performance Rules 2024 after the council had published its Long-term Plan 2024-2044, which sets our statement of service. The updated measure came into effect on 21 August 2024 and still covers the bacterial (SSP-WS1) and protozoal (SSP - WS2) compliance of water supplies but compliance is now directly referenced to the relevant rules in the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022. Our reporting is, therefore, against those rules. In addition to reporting to Bacterial and Protozoal compliance, Council must now also report on (j) D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring, which is reported within Bacterial compliance measure (SSP-WS1).

#### Monitoring Compliance

Council monitors compliance through sampling and analysers. The data of which is stored on the historian server. These are reported weekly and monthly to Local Waters Managers. Additionally specified infrastructure data is provided to Taumata Arowai routinely.

In addition to Council monitoring compliance, results for audit are peer reviewed internally and WaiComply reviews our DWQAR compliance quarterly – creating independent reports to the compliance team. This allows more comprehensive compliance reporting and can outline if any risks have been missed.

### Horizons Regional Council's (HRC) One Plan

The HRC's One Plan, which is based on the Resource Management Act 1991, require us to report on all aspects of active consents annually. Annual site inspections by HRC and review of our annual monitoring reports allow HRC to review consent condition compliance to create independent annual monitoring reports. From this they are able to create a compliance matrix and assess risks. There is regular communication to the consents monitoring team as needed, allowing for timely remedial action as issues present.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable					
<b>SSP-WS1</b> Safe water supply*.	Council's drinking water supply complies with the following parts of the drinking water quality assurance rules <sup>1</sup> (h) T3 Bacterial Rules; and (j) D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring Rule <sup>2</sup> in  Levin Shannon Foxton Foxton Beach Tokomaru	All met All met All met All met All met	<b>Not on track</b>					
			As at 30 April 2026					
			Scheme & Service population	Compliance Rules	Feb 2026	March 2026	April 2026	YTD
			*Serviced population is estimated as per 2023 census (Total: 30,175)					
			Levin *20,849	T3 Bacterial rules	All met	All met	All met	All met
				D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring Rule	All met	All met	All met	All met
			Shannon *1,819	T3 Bacterial rules	All met	All met	All met	Almost met
				D3.29 Microbiological frequency Monitoring Rule	All met	All met	All met	All met
			Foxton *3,234	T3 Bacterial rules	Almost met <sup>1</sup>	All met	All met	Almost met

<sup>1</sup> 2024-2044 Long Term Plan wording 'Council's drinking water supply complies with: (a) part 4 of the Drinking Water Standards (bacteria compliance criteria)' updated to reflect requirements as per the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 and the wording in the DIA Non-Financial Performance measures 2024.

<sup>2</sup> (j) monitors end point sampling frequency for Coliform and E. coli.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable			
	D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring Rule	All met	All met	All met	All met	All met
Foxton Beach *3,775	T3 Bacterial rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	All met
	D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring Rule	All met	All met	All met	All met	All met
Tokomaru *497	T3 Bacterial rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	All met
	D3.29 Microbiological Monitoring Rule	All met	All met	All met	All met	All met

T3 bacterial rules:  
<sup>1</sup>A low chlorine residual (FAC) event occurred at the Foxton Water Treatment Plant on 25 February 2026 due to an incorrect treatment system setting, which caused temporary plant shutdowns. The issue was promptly corrected, reservoirs were disinfected, and additional water quality testing and network flushing were undertaken. Follow-up chlorine and microbiological test results confirmed the water met drinking water standards the following day. This event resulted in one day of non-compliance, with February compliance of 96.4% and year-to-date compliance remaining above 99%.

D3.29 E. coli and coliforms monitoring:  
 The entire region is 100% compliant.

Bacterial Notifications to Taumata Arowai (unsafe supply of water)		Total number of E-coli and coliform samples taken that did not meet drinking water standards and the response thereto.
Area	No. of Notifications	E. coli and Coliform Samples not meeting standards
Levin	0	0

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable					
			Shannon & Mangaore	0	0	0		
			Foxtton	0	0	0		
			Foxtton Beach	0	0	0		
			Tokomaru	0	0	0		
			TOTAL	0	0	0		
			Notes					
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacterial Notifications: 0</li> <li>Response E. coli and coliform samples: 0</li> </ul>					
<b>SSP-WS2</b>	Council's drinking water supply complies with the following parts of the drinking water quality assurance rules <sup>3</sup>		<b>Not on track</b>					
Safe water supply*.	(i) T3 Protozoal Rules. in		As at 30 April 2026					
			Scheme & Service population	Compliance Rules	Feb 2026	March 2026	April 2026	YTD
			*Serviced population is estimated as per 2023 census (Total: 30,175)					
	Levin		T3 Protozoal Rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	
	Shannon	All met	T3 Protozoal Rules	Almost met <sup>1</sup>	All met	All met	Almost met	
	Foxtton	All met	T3 Protozoal Rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	
	Foxtton Beach	All met	T3 Protozoal Rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	
	Tokomaru	All met	T3 Protozoal Rules	All met	All met	All met	All met	

<sup>3</sup> 2024-2044 Long Term Plan wording 'Council's drinking water supply complies with: (b) part 4 of the Drinking Water Standards (protozoa compliance criteria)' updated to reflect requirements as per the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules 2022 and the wording in the DIA Non-Financial Performance measures 2024.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable																								
*497			<p>Shannon – On 28 February 2026, there was a brief breach in water quality when turbidity (cloudiness) in the water rose above acceptable levels during a plant restart.</p> <p>This was caused by sediment being disturbed in the system. The issue was short-lived, and the supply remained compliant 99.17% of the time to the end of April 2026, with automatic systems diverting affected water away from supply.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">Protozoal Notifications to Taumata Arowai (unsafe supply of water)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>Notifications</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Levin</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shannon &amp; Mangaore</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foxton</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foxton Beach</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tokomaru</td> <td>0</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>0</b></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protozoal Notifications: 0</li> </ul>	Protozoal Notifications to Taumata Arowai (unsafe supply of water)			Area	Notifications	Comments	Levin	0		Shannon & Mangaore	0		Foxton	0		Foxton Beach	0		Tokomaru	0		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	
Protozoal Notifications to Taumata Arowai (unsafe supply of water)																											
Area	Notifications	Comments																									
Levin	0																										
Shannon & Mangaore	0																										
Foxton	0																										
Foxton Beach	0																										
Tokomaru	0																										
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>																										
<b>SSP-WS3</b>	The total number of complaints received about any of the following that tastes and looks satisfactory*.		<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>Result per 1,000 connections</th> <th>No. of complaints</th> <th>Comment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Clarity</td> <td>0.85</td> <td>12</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taste</td> <td>0.28</td> <td>4</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Description	Result per 1,000 connections	No. of complaints	Comment	Clarity	0.85	12	On track	Taste	0.28	4	On track												
Description	Result per 1,000 connections	No. of complaints	Comment																								
Clarity	0.85	12	On track																								
Taste	0.28	4	On track																								
	Drinking water clarity;	1																									
	Drinking water taste;	1																									
	Drinking water odour;	1																									

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable											
	Drinking water pressure or flow; Continuity of supply; and Council's response to any of these issues.	1	Odour	0.35	5	On track								
		1	Pressure of flow	2.40	34	Not on track								
		1	Continuity of supply	4.60	65	Not on track								
			Council's response	0	0	On track								
			<b>Total</b>	<b>8.48</b>	<b>120</b>	Not on track								
Total:		≤ 6	<p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A water shut down on 12 October 2025 triggered a total 30 customer service request queries.</li> <li>During planned maintenance work in January 2026 a new pressure sensor alarm was inadvertently triggered, which resulted in water being temporarily shut off. This led to 10 customer service request queries: 9 for Continuity of supply and 1 for Pressure of flow.</li> <li>Emergency shutdowns to fix leaks as well as blocked restrictors and broken check valves contributed to the pressure of flow and continuity of supply requests during the February to April 2026 period.</li> </ul>											
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Description</th> <th>No. of connections</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025</td> <td>13,172</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of non-residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025</td> <td>972</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total number of connections as at 1 July 2025</td> <td>14,144</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Description	No. of connections	Number of residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025	13,172	Number of non-residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025	972	Total number of connections as at 1 July 2025	14,144		
Description	No. of connections													
Number of residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025	13,172													
Number of non-residential connections in the drinking water network as at 1 July 2025	972													
Total number of connections as at 1 July 2025	14,144													
<b>SSP-WS4</b>	The median time from the time that Council received notification, to the time that service personnel:		<b>On track</b>											
Response to faults*.			As at 30 April 2026											

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable			
	Reach the site for urgent call-outs; Confirm resolution of the fault or interruption of urgent call-outs; Reach the site for non-urgent call-outs; and Confirm resolution of the fault or interruption of non-urgent call-outs.	< 1 hour	Description	Median target	Median result	Comment
		< 8 hours	Reach the site for urgent call-outs	< 1 hour	21 minutes	On track
		< 3 days (72hrs)	Resolution of the fault or interruption of urgent call-outs	< 8 hours	1 hour 9 minutes	On track
		< 3 days (72hrs)	Reach the site for non-urgent call-outs	< 3 days	19 hours 12 minutes	On track
			Resolution of the fault or interruption of non-urgent call-outs	< 3 days	21 hours 53 minutes	On track
<b>SSP-WS5</b>	Average consumption of drinking water per person per day (lpcd) within the water supply areas (target based on Horizons One Plan - Section 5.4.3.1). lpcd – litres per capita per day.	≤ 300 lpcd	<b>On track</b>			
			<b>As at 30 April 2026</b>			
			<b>Quarter 1 result 1 July – 30 Sept</b>	<b>Quarter 2 result 1 Oct – 31 Dec</b>	<b>Quarter 3 result 1 Jan – 31 March</b>	
			249L/person/day	241L/person/day	257L/person/day	
			<b>YTD Results</b>			
			249L/person/day			
			Note:			
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This result is calculated on a quarterly basis as it is based on water meter readings which is done quarterly.</li> <li>The LTP has these as two measures that are combined here as the target is the same.</li> </ul>			

**Ref & Service**      **How performance is measured**      **Target**      **On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable**

**SSP-WS6**  
Minimal water losses\*.  
Real water loss performance of the network as measured by the standard World Bank Institute Band for Leakage.

Band "B"

**On track**

As at 30 April 2026

Supply	Snapshot – Infrastructure Leakage Index	Outcome
Levin	3.3 (B)	On track
Shannon & Mangaore	2.2 (B)	On track
Foxtton	2.0 (B)	On track
Foxtton Beach	0.4 (A)	On track
Tokomaru	0.5 (A)	On track
	0.70 (A)	On track

Notes:

- Council reached our target if the Band for a plant falls on either band A or B.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable				
<b>Standard World Bank Institute Band for Leakage</b>							
<b>Developed Countries Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) range</b>	<b>Band</b>	<b>General description of Real Loss Management Performance Categories for Developed and Developing Countries</b>					
Less than 2	A	Further loss reduction may be uneconomic unless there are shortages: careful analysis needed to identify cost-effective improvement.					
2 to <4	B	Potential for marked improvements; consider pressure management, better active leakage control practices, and better network maintenance.					
4 to <8	C	Poor leakage record; tolerable only if water is plentiful and cheap, even then, analyze level and nature of leakage and intensify leakage reduction efforts					
8 or more	D	Very inefficient use of resources; leakage reduction programs imperative and high priority.					
(US Spelling)							
Band 'B' – The Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) is a performance indicator of real (physical) water loss from the supply network of the water distribution systems. The ILI was developed by the International Water Association (IWA) Water Loss Task Force (WLTF) and first published in 1999.							
<b>SSP-WS7</b>	The number of:		<b>On track</b>				
Sustainable water supply management.	Abatement Notices;	0	As at 30 April 2026				
	Infringement Notices;	0					
		0					
			<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>YTD</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Abatement Notices</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		YTD	Abatement Notices	0
	YTD						
Abatement Notices	0						

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable	
	Enforcement Orders; and Convictions	0	Infringement Notices	0
			Enforcement Orders	0
			Convictions	0
	received by Council in relation to Horizons Regional Council resource consents* for discharge from its water supply system.			

\*These performance measurements are provided by the Department of Internal Affairs, and they are mandatory.

## Wastewater Treatment

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable		
<b>SSP-WW1</b>	The number of dry weather wastewater overflows from the wastewater system per 1,000 connections.	≤ 2	<b>On track</b>		
Reliable wastewater collection and disposal*.			As at 30 April 2026		
				Target per 1,000 connections	Result per 1,000 connections
			Number of overflows	≤ 2	0.77
			No. of overflows		
			10		
			Number of connections as at 1 July 2025: 12,985.		
<b>SSP-WW2</b>	The median time (hrs) from the time that Council provides a good response to wastewater system faults reported*.	< 1 hour	<b>On track</b>		
	The median time (hrs) from the time that Council receives a notification, to the time that services personnel reach the site in responding to an overflow resulting from a wastewater blockage or other fault*.	< 12 hours	As at 30 April 2026		
			Target Response Time	Result Response Time	
			< 1 hour	33 minutes	
			Target Resolution Time	Result Resolution Time	
			< 12 hours	2 hours 25 minutes	

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable																								
	of a blockage or other fault within the wastewater system causing the overflow*.																										
<b>SSP-WW3</b> The service is satisfactory*.	The total number of complaints received (expressed per 1,000 connections to the wastewater system) regarding:		<b>On track</b>																								
	Wastewater odour;	< 4	As at 30 April 2026 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Per 1,000 connections</th> <th>Total No. of complaints</th> <th>Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Odour</td> <td>2</td> <td>26</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Faults</td> <td>0.92</td> <td>12</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blockages</td> <td>6.47</td> <td>84</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council's response</td> <td>0.08</td> <td>1</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>9.47</td> <td>123</td> <td>On track</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Number of connections as at 1 July 2025: 12,985.		Per 1,000 connections	Total No. of complaints	Comments	Odour	2	26	On track	Faults	0.92	12	On track	Blockages	6.47	84	On track	Council's response	0.08	1	On track	Total	9.47	123	On track
	Per 1,000 connections	Total No. of complaints		Comments																							
Odour	2	26		On track																							
Faults	0.92	12		On track																							
Blockages	6.47	84		On track																							
Council's response	0.08	1	On track																								
Total	9.47	123	On track																								
	Wastewater systems faults;	< 6																									
	Wastewater system blockages;	< 8																									
	and Council's response to issues with its wastewater system.	< 4																									
	Total number of complaints received about any of the above.	< 22																									
<b>SSP-WW4</b> Safe disposal of wastewater*.	The number of:		<b>Not on track</b>																								
	Abatement Notices;	0	As at 30 April 2026 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>YTD</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Abatement Notices</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Infringement Notices</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement Orders</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Convictions</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Note: <b>Abatement Notice No. 1566</b> We received an abatement notice from the Horizons Regional Council (HRC) at the end of October 2025 for the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant ('the Pot'). This was in regard to failure to deliver the Annual Plan from the start of the consent ~2020. In addition, an Emerging Contaminants Strategy (PFAS) was never completed or created from the same outset time. Both are due annually and a		YTD	Abatement Notices	1	Infringement Notices	1	Enforcement Orders	0	Convictions	0														
	YTD																										
Abatement Notices	1																										
Infringement Notices	1																										
Enforcement Orders	0																										
Convictions	0																										
	Infringement Notices;	0																									
	Enforcement Orders; and	0																									
	Convictions	0																									
	received by Council in relation to Horizons Regional Council resource consents* for discharge from its wastewater system.																										

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
			<p>schedule of delivery has been crafted to complete tasks within 6 months from the notice, this has been completed with the only outstanding document remaining to be delivered by lwi in regard to the Waiwiri Enhancement strategy.</p> <p><b>Infringement Notice No. 1359</b> We received an infringement notice from HRC in March 2026 for the Pot. There was a series of odour compliant CRM's triggering an internal compliance investigation, additionally a HRC investigation regarding discharge to air. The clarifier inverted after an influx of fats causing the sludge in the clarifier to go septic and float rather than sink. This clarifier was drained and cleaned, and additional measures to separate the sludge for disposal had an immediate remedial effect.</p>

\*These performance measurements are provided by the Department of Internal Affairs, and they are mandatory.

### Stormwater

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable								
<b>SSP-SW1</b> An adequate stormwater system*.	Number of flooding events that occur in the district.	< 5 per year	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 There were no flooding events that occurred in the district.</p>								
<b>SSP-SW2</b> An adequate stormwater system*.	For each flooding event the number of habitable floors affected per 1,000 connections to Council's stormwater networks.	2 or less	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target</th> <th>Result</th> <th>Per 1,000 connections</th> <th>Habitable floors affected</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2 or less</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>There were no flooding events</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Target	Result	Per 1,000 connections	Habitable floors affected	2 or less	0	0	There were no flooding events
Target	Result	Per 1,000 connections	Habitable floors affected								
2 or less	0	0	There were no flooding events								

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable										
Number of connections as at 1 July 2025: 13,793.													
<b>SSP-SW3</b> Response to faults*.	The median response time to attend a flooding event, measured from the time that Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site.	< 1 hour	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target</th> <th>Result</th> <th>Comment</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>&lt; 1 hour</td> <td>0</td> <td>There were no flooding events</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Target	Result	Comment	< 1 hour	0	There were no flooding events				
Target	Result	Comment											
< 1 hour	0	There were no flooding events											
<b>SSP-SW4</b> Customer satisfaction*.	The number of complaints received by Council about the performance of its stormwater system expressed per 1,000 properties connected to the system.	< 10 per year	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target per 1,000 connections</th> <th>Per 1,000 connections</th> <th>No. of complaints</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>&lt; 10 per year</td> <td>2.03</td> <td>28</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> Number of connections as at 1 July 2025: 13,793.	Target per 1,000 connections	Per 1,000 connections	No. of complaints	< 10 per year	2.03	28				
Target per 1,000 connections	Per 1,000 connections	No. of complaints											
< 10 per year	2.03	28											
<b>SSP-SW5</b> A sustainable stormwater service*.	The number of: Abatement Notices; Infringement Notices; Enforcement Orders; and Convictions  received by Council in relation to Horizons Regional Council resource consents* for discharge from its stormwater system**.	0 0 0 0	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>YTD</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Abatement Notices</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Infringement Notices</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Enforcement Orders</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Convictions</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		YTD	Abatement Notices	0	Infringement Notices	0	Enforcement Orders	0	Convictions	0
	YTD												
Abatement Notices	0												
Infringement Notices	0												
Enforcement Orders	0												
Convictions	0												

\*These performance measurements are provided by the Department of Internal Affairs, and they are mandatory.

- Council does not report on DIA Performance Measure 1 – Subpart 4: Flood Protection and Control Works as this is applicable to Regional Council activities, not our district council. Council manages our district’s urban stormwater networks (pipes, open drains, and pump stations). Outside urban areas, the roading team generally maintains roadside drains where they are not covered by Horizons Regional Council’s drainage schemes.

All stopbanks, floodgates, and major river or regional flood protection schemes are managed by Horizons Regional Council.

\*\*Currently there is no discharge consent for Levin’s stormwater to Lake Horowhenua.

## Land Transport

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<b>SSP-LT1</b> A safe road network*.	The change from the previous financial year in the number of fatalities and serious injury crashes on the local road network.	No (or Zero) change or a reduction from previous year.	<b>Unable to report</b>  To be reported at financial year end.
<b>SSP-LT2</b> Roads in good condition*.	The average quality of ride on a sealed local road network measured by smooth travel exposure.	Minimum 85%.	<b>Unable to report</b>  Inspection is done once a year. To be reported at financial year end.
<b>SSP-LT3</b> Roads that are maintained well*.	The percentage of the sealed local road network that is resurfaced annually.	Minimum of 3.5% of total area.	<b>Achieved</b>  4.19% (22.43km/535.55km) of the sealed network was resurfaced this financial year.
<b>SSP-LT4</b> Footpaths are in an acceptable condition*.	Target footpath condition rating (% compliant with Council’s standards found in the Land Transport Activity Plan).	97% of footpaths in average to	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
		excellent condition.	96.91% of footpaths were in excellent to average condition and 3.09% in a poor or very poor condition.
<b>SSP-LT5</b> Good response to service requests*.	The percentage of customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths to which Council responds within 15 working days.	> 95%	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 98.20% (1,474/1,501) requests relating to roads and footpaths were responded to within 15 working days.
<b>SSP-LT6</b> Provision of safe and effective walking and cycling infrastructure.	Percentage of the transport network which includes safe and effective walking and cycling infrastructure.	Increase year on year.	<b>Not on track</b>  We were unable to determine a baseline during the 2024/25 financial year. NZTA Waka Kotahi reduced funding for this work, and no work was done in this space.  Note: As we have limited or no funding for cycling investment, it is unlikely that we will achieve either the 'determine baseline' or the 'increase from previous year' for remainder of the LTP term.

\*These performance measurements are provided by the Department of Internal Affairs, and they are mandatory.

## Solid Waste

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track
<b>SSP-SD1</b>	Number of legitimate complaints <sup>4</sup>	Recycling:	<b>On track</b>

<sup>4</sup> Legitimate complaints do not include when bin was put out on the wrong week; bin was not out at time of collection and the bin was not collected due to contamination.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track									
Ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of our community by collecting refuse and recycling in a timely and sanitary manner.	Recycling bins Kerbside collection.	5 legitimate complaints per 1,000 bins in circulation	<p>As of 30 April 2026</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target permitted</th> <th>No. of legitimate complaints</th> <th>No. of complaints per 1,000 bins</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Recycling</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>*80 permitted p/a</td> <td>76</td> <td>4.76</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Number of bins: 15,964 *Target calculation: <math>(15,964/1,000) \times 5 = 80</math> Result: <math>(76/15,964) \times 1,000 = 4.76</math></p>	Target permitted	No. of legitimate complaints	No. of complaints per 1,000 bins	<b>Recycling</b>			*80 permitted p/a	76	4.76
		Target permitted	No. of legitimate complaints	No. of complaints per 1,000 bins								
<b>Recycling</b>												
*80 permitted p/a	76	4.76										
Kerbside collection: 1 legitimate complaint per 800 bags sold annually.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Target permitted</th> <th>No. of legitimate complaints</th> <th>No. of complaints per 800 bags</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Kerbside collection</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>*62 permitted for YTD</td> <td>45</td> <td>0.72</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Number of bags sold as of 30 April 2026: 49,700 *Target calculation: <math>49,700/800 \times 1 = 62</math> Result: <math>(45/49,700) \times 800 = 0.72</math></p>	Target permitted	No. of legitimate complaints	No. of complaints per 800 bags	<b>Kerbside collection</b>			*62 permitted for YTD	45	0.72		
Target permitted	No. of legitimate complaints	No. of complaints per 800 bags										
<b>Kerbside collection</b>												
*62 permitted for YTD	45	0.72										
<b>SSP-SD2</b> Embedding circular thinking into our waste management systems.	Meet the targets set in the Waste Management Minimisation Plan (WMMP <sup>5</sup> ).	100% of targets.	<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>As of 30 April 2026 80% (8/10 targets due this financial year are on track as set in the Waste Management Minimisation Plan (WMMP)).</p> <p>Of these:</p>									

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/2/council-documents/plans/horowhenua-waste-management-and-minimisation-plan-2024-august-2024.pdf>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The target related to flytipping cannot be measured. The flytipping is collected by our contractor Green by Nature with other waste from litter bins and parks and property shrubbery (greenwaste). This is an economical means to manage council day to day costs.</li> <li>The district waste diversion target (30% by 2026) has not been measured as we do not yet have the necessary commercially sensitive waste tonnage data. This data accessibility will likely improve when the waste collectors' licence is circulated among waste collectors July 2026. Note: This target is not a mandatory MfE requirement anymore.</li> </ul> <p>Note: The WMMP has a total of 13 targets over a 6-year period. Of these, 3 are scheduled for 2028 and 2029 respectively so are not reported on in the targets for this year. One is not achievable – flytipping.</p>

### Community Facilities

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable	
<b>SSP-CF1</b>	Number of opportunities <sup>6</sup> provided for the community and by the community <sup>7</sup> that enhances well-	500 opportunities per calendar month.	<b>On track</b>	
Our aquatic centres support and enhance			As at 30 April 2026	
			Month	No. of opportunities

<sup>6</sup> Such as swimming lessons, training, competitions, events and fitness classes.

<sup>7</sup> Swim schools, clubs, organisations

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable	
community well-being and safety.	being and safety in or through the use of our aquatic facilities.		July 2025	893
			Aug 2025	888
			Sept 2025	1,054
			Oct 2025	1,059
			Nov 2025	1,102
			Dec 2025	957
			Jan 2026	259
			Feb 2026	731
			March 2026	823
			April 2026	82*
			<b>YTD</b>	<b>7,848</b>
Note: *The Levin Aquatic Centre was closed in April 2026.				
<b>SSP-CF2</b>	Contribute to community literacy by providing curated collections of physical and digital resources.	≥3 resources per capita.	<b>On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable</b>	
Community has access to a range of current information that inspires, entices and informs in both print and digital format.			As at 30 April 2026 The community had access to a minimum of 3.1 resources per capita <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 74,639 physical resources</li> <li>• 44,486 digital resources (owned)</li> </ul> Measured by 38,100 capita.	
<b>SSP-CF3</b>	Percent of residents and non-residents satisfied with library and community services based on the community's needs.	≥ 92%	<b>Unable to Report</b>	
			The next Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey results will be available in June 2026.	

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
	Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey.		

## Community Infrastructure

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<p><b>SSP-CI1</b></p> <p>A range of parks and reserves that are affordable, well maintained, safe and provide for the recreational (play and sport), cultural and environmental wellbeing of the community.</p>	<p>Playground facilities receive a monthly inspection by a suitably qualified person to ensure they comply with relevant National Playground standards and findings of inspection are actioned (or plan put in place) before the next inspection.</p>	<p>≥ 90% of playgrounds resources per capita.</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 100% (23/23) playgrounds were inspected by a suitably qualified person.</p> <p>No failures identified during previous inspections requiring action before the next inspection.</p> <p>No failures were identified during the latest inspection.</p>
<p><b>SSP-CI2</b></p> <p>A range of parks and reserves that are affordable, well maintained, safe and provide for the recreational (play and sport), cultural and environmental wellbeing of the community.</p>	<p>Parks and reserves maintenance contracts are administered and monitored on a regular basis, as per contract specifications.</p>	<p>Achieve</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 95% (target of 95% as per the contract) of parks and reserves maintenance contracts were administered and monitored as per contract specifications.</p>
<p><b>SSP-CI3</b></p> <p>A range of parks and reserves that are affordable, well maintained, safe and provide for the recreational (play</p>	<p>Sports grounds are made available for use with appropriate ground condition.</p>	<p>0 complaints made about sports grounds</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
and sport), cultural and environmental wellbeing of the community.		availability and conditions.	No complaints were made about sports ground availability, and no complaints were made about sport ground conditions.
<b>SSP-CI4</b> Clean and safe public toilets	Public toilet maintenance contracts are administered and monitored on a regular basis, as per contract specifications.	Achieve	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 97% (target is 85% as per contract) of public toilet maintenance contracts were administered and monitored as per contract specifications.
<b>SSP-CI5</b> Cemeteries are fit for purpose and meet the changing needs of our community now and into the future.	Across the district's cemeteries, there is a continuous availability of 10% of developed burial plots (of any type) at any given time.	Achieve	<b>Not on track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 There was a continuous availability of 8% (1,896) of developed plots (of any type) across the district's cemeteries at any given time.  Note: Cemeteries continue under a programme of development with additional plots to be created.

## Property

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
There are no Level of Service performance measures for this activity.			

## Representation and Community Leadership

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<b>SSP-RCL1</b> Council supports residents and ratepayers to have their views heard and considered in Council decision-making.	Regular opportunities <sup>8</sup> are provided for the community to influence decision-making.	100 opportunities per year.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 93 opportunities were provided for the community to influence decision-making.
<b>SSP-RCL2</b> Council is transparent and accountable to the community.	Council agendas are available on the website 2 working days prior to the relevant meeting. Council meeting minutes are available on the website 2 working days after the relevant meeting <sup>9</sup> .	≥ 95% of agenda and minutes.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 100% of Council agendas were available on the website two working days prior to the relevant meeting and</li> <li>• 100% of Council meeting minutes were available on the website two working days after the relevant meeting.</li> </ul>
<b>SSP-RCL3</b> Develop and deliver strategic projects, plans and corporate documents that achieve or contribute to our Community Outcomes.	Community Outcomes are achieved or contributed to by milestones of strategic projects, plans and corporate documents being met.	100% of milestones.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 100% of strategic projects, plans and corporate documents developed and delivered contributed to our Community Outcomes.  <b>Activation of Levin Town Centre</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercial negotiations with The Wellington Company for the sale and purchase of the Levin War Memorial Hall and</li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> Such as live streaming, public forums, open meetings, workshops etc, cuppa with a councillor.

<sup>9</sup> Council meetings, committee meetings, and Board Meetings.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
			<p>Village Green have been completed, with preliminary designs approved and consenting stage now underway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council approved the sale of the Levin Warehouse Carpark.</li> <li>• EOI and RFP processes completed for the proposed Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark redevelopment.</li> <li>• Stage One works to enhance the former Women's Bowling Green area at Thompson House Gardens have been completed.</li> <li>• The Access and Parking Strategy progressed toward finalisation.</li> <li>• 3D digital visualisation work for the Levin Town Centre is nearing completion.</li> <li>• Draft Retail Transformation Strategy provided by THCL.</li> </ul> <p><b>Annual Plan 2026/27</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation on the Resource Management Act fees and charges was carried out as required under the RMA. Consultation on the full Fees and Charges schedule was not required as it was consistent with direction in the Revenue &amp; Financing Policy (part of the LTP). However, it was made public.</li> <li>• At the 29 April 2026 Council meeting Council received the submissions on the RMA Fees &amp; Charges and heard one oral submission. Council also endorsed the draft Fees &amp; Charges Schedule ahead of adoption scheduled for 27 May 2026. Annual Plan 2026/27 is scheduled for adoption that same day.</li> </ul> <p><b>Annual Report 2024/25</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report adopted within statutory timeframe – 8 October 2025.</li> </ul>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Report clean Audit Report received – 8 October 2025.</li> </ul> <p><b>Climate Action Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officers are continuing with the actions in the Climate Action Plan – namely this is to engage with regional partners, track sustainability improvements made to our BAU practice.</li> </ul> <p><b>District Plan Changes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan Change 6A received an exemption from the Minster for Resource Management Reform to continue to a hearing. Officers are preparing for this, including identifying information needed to respond to matters raised in submissions. Officers will soon engage with the Chairperson of Council's hearings committee to discuss appointing hearing commissioners.</li> </ul> <p><b>Foxton and Foxton Beach Community Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council officers continue to work alongside the six theme groups, with progress measured against the actions identified in the Foxton and Foxton Beach Community Plan. Actions range from short term “quick wins” to longer term projects and aspirations. Several theme groups have already completed immediate actions, while others continue to make strong progress through ongoing planning and project development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shannon/Otāuru Community Plan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council officers continue to work alongside the Working Group. The four priority areas are gaining momentum and have already delivered some great results. Together, they are exploring funding opportunities, with exciting possibilities emerging.</li> </ul>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A recent success was Council officers securing funding through the Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa Fund for a new community "Play Station" – a collection of play equipment that will create fun, active opportunities for everyone to enjoy.</li> </ul>

## Community Support

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<b>SSP-CS1</b> The community is supported to be prepared for an emergency.	Staff are trained and ready to respond and support the community in an emergency.	80% of full-time staff completed Integrated Training Framework Foundation within 6 months of commencing.  50% of full-time staff completed Integrated Training Framework Intermediate within 1 year of commencing.	<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>Council is currently not on track to achieve this measure within the prescribed timeframes. During 2025/26, a review of the reporting methodology identified inconsistencies in how eligible staff and training timeframes had historically been assessed. The review also highlighted operational factors affecting completion within the required periods, including limited course availability and competing operational demands across some teams.</p> <p><b>Baseline review and reporting methodology:</b>                      In the 2024/25 Annual Report, Council reported 65 new full-time staff members as the baseline population for this Service Performance Statement (SSP) measure. At that time, complete results were not yet available as the required six-month and 12-month assessment periods had not elapsed for all staff.</p> <p>Following review of the reporting methodology, Council confirmed that the correct baseline population for 2024/25 was 52 new permanent full-time staff rather than 65 as previously reported.</p>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
			<p>The earlier figure included some staff who were not required to complete the training, along with inconsistencies relating to employment status and commencement date information required to assess training timeframes.</p> <p>The review also identified that not all full-time staff are required to complete all levels of Integrated Training Framework (ITF) training, depending on their role and operational responsibilities.</p> <p><b>Results as per SSP requirement:</b> As at 30 April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13.46% (7 of 52) of new permanent full-time staff completed the ITF Foundation training course within six months of commencing employment.</li> <li>• 5.77% (3 of 52) of new permanent full-time staff completed the ITF Intermediate training course within 12 months of commencing employment.**</li> </ul> <p><b>Additional operational context</b> While SSP results remain below target, additional internal analysis indicates overall completion rates are materially higher once exempt staff and late completions are taken into account.</p> <p>Many staff who did not complete training within the required timeframe completed the training shortly afterwards. Training delivery is influenced by scheduled course availability, operational workloads, and the need to maintain service delivery across operational teams. This particularly affects field-based and</p>

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable																										
			<p>specialist operational teams where backfilling attendance can be difficult.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">Foundation Course</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2024/25 FY</th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Number of staff *required to attend</td> <td>46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed on time</td> <td>15.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed late</td> <td>39.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not completed or booked</td> <td>45.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2">**Intermediate Course</th> </tr> <tr> <th>2024/25 FY</th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of staff *required to attend</td> <td>19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed on time</td> <td>15.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Completed late</td> <td>15.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not completed or booked</td> <td>52.6%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Booked for future course</td> <td>15.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Notes and definitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *Required staff refers to permanent full-time staff who commenced employment during the relevant financial year, remained employed at the applicable training due date, and were not exempt under Council's internal assessment process.</li> <li>• **The 12-month timeframe for Intermediate training has not yet elapsed for all eligible staff as at 30 April 2026. Results may therefore change in future reporting.</li> <li>• Exemptions may apply to staff whose roles do not have emergency management responsibilities as part of their role, or whose normal day-to-day responsibilities are considered substantially aligned with emergency response activities. For example, lifeguards were exempt from both Foundation and</li> </ul>	Foundation Course		2024/25 FY		Number of staff *required to attend	46	Completed on time	15.2%	Completed late	39.1%	Not completed or booked	45.7%	**Intermediate Course		2024/25 FY		Number of staff *required to attend	19	Completed on time	15.8%	Completed late	15.8%	Not completed or booked	52.6%	Booked for future course	15.8%
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Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<b>SSP-CS2</b>	<p>We are able to continue to operate during high impact emergency events.</p> <p>Complete a comprehensive Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) capability audit<sup>10</sup> every two years to ensure compliance with the Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Act 2002.</p> <p>This audit must be conducted by an independent suitably qualified person.</p>	<p>An audit is conducted every two years.</p>	<p>Intermediate training requirements, while Local Waters staff were exempt from Intermediate training requirements.</p> <p><b>Improvement focus</b> Council is continuing to refine training tracking and reporting processes, improve enrolment planning, and work with operational managers to increase completion within required timeframes.</p>
<b>SSP-CS3</b>	<p>Community organisations to ensure transparency regarding the allocation of Council-</p> <p>Community organisations receiving funds for essential services to fulfil monitoring and reporting obligations.</p>	<p>100%</p>	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 100% of the community organisations receiving funds for essential services during the 2024/25 financial year fulfilled monitoring and reporting obligations for reports (due 31 July 2025).</p>

<sup>10</sup> This audit must be conducted by an independent suitably qualified person.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
provided financial support.			Monitoring and Reporting for the 2025/26 financial year is due on 30 June 2026.
<b>SSP-CS4</b> Collaboration with and advocacy (including business development and new business investment in the Horowhenua District) for all sectors of local business.	Percent of District's Businesses that are satisfied or more than satisfied with Council's support to local businesses and overall performance in the Economic Development activity.	≥ 75%	<b>Unable to Report</b>  The next Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey results will be available in June 2026.
<b>SSP-CS5</b> Providing opportunities for local businesses and the local community to understand business support and economic development initiatives available.	Number of opportunities <sup>11</sup> provided by Council.	≥ 30	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 181 opportunities for local businesses and the local community to understand business support and economic development initiatives available, were provided by Council.  This is made up of 15 events and 166 communication posts (website, news, social media posts, or other).

<sup>11</sup> Networking events, social media posts, case studies, other comms, other events etc.

## Regulatory Services

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
<b>SSP-RS1</b> Processing of applications under the Resource Management Act (RMA) 1991.	Percentage of resource consent applications that are processed within statutory timeframes.	95%	<b>Not on track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 76% (126/166) resource consent applications were processed within statutory timeframes.  Note: While 100% of resource consents issued in April were within timeframes, the overall level of statutory compliance continues to be impacted because of process bottlenecks in July, due to absences within the team.
<b>SSP-RS2</b> Carry out Building Consent Authority functions including enforcement of legislation relating to construction of buildings and structures.	Percentage of building consent applications that are processed within statutory timeframes.	95%	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 97% (422/436) building consent applications were processed with in statutory timeframes.
<b>SSP-RS3</b> Community confidence and wellbeing is ensured in the safety of food and alcohol premises' businesses.	Percentage of existing food businesses that receive a poor verification outcome are revisited within 20 working days.	95%	<b>Not applicable</b>  As at 30 April 2026 No existing food businesses received a poor verification outcome and were required to be revisited within 20 working days.
<b>SSP-RS4</b> Community confidence and wellbeing is ensured in the	Percentage of high-risk alcohol premises that are visited at least twice a year.	100%	<b>Not applicable</b>  As at 30 April 2026

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report/Not applicable
	safety of food and alcohol premises' businesses.		There were no high-risk alcohol premises in the district during the reporting period, and no inspections were required.
<b>SSP-RS5</b> We enhance community wellbeing by responding to public nuisance complaints in a timely manner.	Animal Control staff are rostered and available on a 24 hr. 7 day a week basis.	100%	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 100% of the time Animal Control staff were rostered and available on a 24 hr. 7 day a week basis.
<b>SSP-RS6</b> Community can access Council in a way or by means that most suits them.	Percentage of community members surveyed that are satisfied with the ways they can contact Council.	≥ 80%	<b>Unable to Report</b>  The next Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey results will be available in June 2026.
<b>SSP-RS7</b> We enhance community wellbeing by responding to public nuisance complaints in a timely manner.	Percentage of noise complaints are responded to within 60 minutes.	100%	<b>Not on track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 98.03% (1,242/1,267) of noise complaints were responded to within 60 minutes.  Notes: While the target is to respond to all complaints within 60 minutes, this is not always possible due to multiple jobs coming in at the same time and area of service (i.e. one job in Tokomaru the next in Waikawa Beach).

## 2025/26 Organisation Performance Measures (OPMs)

### Introduction

Council did a review of the service performance measures, with input from the auditors, during the 2024-44 Long Term Plan (LTP) process. As a result, there have been some changes to the service performance measures effective from the 2024-25 financial year. Changes include new service performance measures, amendment to some of the existing service performance measures and the creation of organisation performance measures – measures that Council deemed important and wants feedback on but aren't part of the LTP.

### Summary

#### Status

On track	17	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Not on track	5	<span style="color: red;">■</span>
Unable to Report	3	<span style="color: orange;">■</span>
<b>Total</b>	<b>25</b>	<span style="color: grey;">■</span>

### Water Supply

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report				
<b>OPM-WS1</b>	Reduce energy consumption across the water supply network. We reduce our impact on the environment.	Decrease energy consumption by 3% year on year.	<b>On track</b>				
			As at 30 April 2026  Overall energy consumption was reduced by 3% year to date across the water supply network.				
			Feb 2026	March 2026	April 2026	YTD	
			Levin WTP	-15%	-12.8%	-13.2%	-5.5%
			Foxton WTP	+36%	+52.5%	+43.8%	+32.7%

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report				
			Foxton Beach WTP	-11.9%	-41.4%	-38.5%	+11.5%
			Tokomaru intake pumps	-35.4%	+3.6%	-2.3%	-14.7%
			Levin intake	-18.7%	-17.8%	-5%	-13.1%
			Lady's mile Foxton	+34.1%	+81.1%	+13.7%	+3.7%
			Clyde bore	-14.1%	-18.7%	-8.1%	-1.1%
<b>OPM-WS2</b> Provision of a sustainable and resilient water supply for Levin.	Develop and implement the Levin Water Treatment Plant Master Plan.	Adopt master plan and meet 100% of milestones.	<b>On track</b> As at 30 April 2026 Progress with the Levin Water Treatment Plant Master plan priority workstreams include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing update of the masterplan to include work done to date, and consideration how a dual-source supply arrangement, incorporating both river and reservoir water sources, will be managed through the treatment process, and over time determine the timing of any required treatment upgrades, staged renewals, or future plant replacement</li> <li>Pressure Filter refurbishment works to commence June carry over to 2026/27 FY.</li> <li>Principal Requirements received for the Clarifier Bypass/Standby UV/Filter gallery pipework renewal project, tender underway with physical works to be completed in 2026/27 FY.</li> <li>Concept design for a new treated water reservoir received site investigations underway.</li> </ul>				

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
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### Wastewater Treatment

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report																																			
<b>OPM-WW1</b> We reduce our impact on the environment.	Reduce energy consumption across the wastewater network.	Decrease energy consumption by 3% year on year.	<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 Overall energy consumption was decreased by 0.43% year to date across the wastewater network.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Feb 2026</th> <th>March 2026</th> <th>April 2026</th> <th>YTD</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mako road sewage pump</td> <td>+11.1%</td> <td>+24.2%</td> <td>+21.9%</td> <td>+19.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Effluent disposal pump Hōkio Sands</td> <td>-19.4%</td> <td>+1.7%</td> <td>+0.7%</td> <td>-8.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Levin WWTP</td> <td>+3%</td> <td>+4.6%</td> <td>+1.8%</td> <td>+6.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Levin WWTP transfer pump</td> <td>-9.7%</td> <td>-19.4%</td> <td>-25.9%</td> <td>-17.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Waitārere WWTP</td> <td>+10.6%</td> <td>+54.7%</td> <td>+15%</td> <td>+49.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"The Pot" pumping station</td> <td>-5.6%</td> <td>-9.2%</td> <td>-1.8%</td> <td>-10.1%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Feb 2026	March 2026	April 2026	YTD	Mako road sewage pump	+11.1%	+24.2%	+21.9%	+19.5%	Effluent disposal pump Hōkio Sands	-19.4%	+1.7%	+0.7%	-8.7%	Levin WWTP	+3%	+4.6%	+1.8%	+6.8%	Levin WWTP transfer pump	-9.7%	-19.4%	-25.9%	-17.5%	Waitārere WWTP	+10.6%	+54.7%	+15%	+49.1%	"The Pot" pumping station	-5.6%	-9.2%	-1.8%	-10.1%
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<b>OPM-WW2</b> We reduce our impact on the environment.	Implement the Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant Master Plan.	100% of masterplan milestones met.	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p>																																			

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
			<p>Implementation of the master plan is underway. The following priority work streams are being progressed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of the masterplan into a delivery plan for future investment.</li> <li>• Stage 2 of the Inlet pipe and Bulkmain construction is underway with approximately 734m completed by 30 June, remaining works to be completed by August 2026.</li> <li>• Headworks tender went out to market in November 2025. Submissions closed 10 April 2026, evaluation process underway. Construction works planned for 2026/27.</li> <li>• Levin WWTP Sludge Treatment System Tender Preparation.</li> <li>• Irrigation expansion planning underway with site assessment investigations required to confirm consenting requirements.</li> </ul>

## Stormwater

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-SW1</b> We identify priority areas to focus our stormwater investment on such as resilience and freshwater quality.	Develop and implement a Catchment Management Plan Work Plan including milestones.	100% of milestones met.	<b>Not on track</b>  The Catchment Management Plan Work Plan is scheduled for adoption by 1 July 2026.

## Land Transport

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
There are no Operational Performance measures for this activity.			

## Solid Waste

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-SD1</b> Reduce our impact on the environment Promote Waste Minimisation in the community.	Number of opportunities <sup>12</sup> in which the community is educated on waste minimisation practices.	≥ 6	<b>On track</b> As of 30 April 2026 32 opportunities to educate the community on waste minimisation practices were provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9 Waste events</li> <li>• 4 Community Connection posts</li> <li>• 19 Facebook posts</li> </ul> In addition: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 Enviroschools are enrolled district wide (3,277 pupils) with 55 Enviroschool visits year to date.</li> <li>• 159 students involved in Libraries Waste Minimisation education activities.</li> </ul>

## Community Facilities and Services

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-CF1</b> Customers have access to programmes and	Number of participants in programmes delivered from our Community Facilities that provide	≥ 30,000	<b>Not on track</b>  As at 30 April 2026

<sup>12</sup> School programmes, communications, events etc.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
initiatives that enhance the wellbeing of the district.	equitable access to community services.		21,018 participants participated in 1,025 programmes and initiatives enhancing the wellbeing of the district.  Given the current operating environment, and to ensure our resources are focused where they can have the greatest impact, we have slightly reduced the number of programmes and initiatives we deliver.
<b>OPM-CF2</b> Providing affordable and accessible community spaces for groups.	Percentage of bookings that paid a community or free rate.	≥ 60%	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 85% (1,675/2,152) of bookings were charged in accordance with a community or free rate.
<b>OPM-CF3</b> We are prepared and equipped to prevent high risk situations <sup>13</sup> by having an appropriate number of appropriately trained staff and relevant equipment.	Number of high-risk incidents.	0	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 There were no high-risk incidents.

<sup>13</sup> Resuscitation required.

## Community Infrastructure

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<p><b>OPM-CI1</b></p> <p>A range of parks and reserves that are affordable, well maintained, safe and provide for the recreational (play and sport), cultural and environmental wellbeing of the community.</p>	Residential dwellings in urban areas are within 400 metres of a local reserve (either Council or privately provided) and within 800 metres of playgrounds or reserves destinations.	≥ 80% of residential dwellings.	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>81% residential dwellings in urban areas were within 400 metres of a local reserve (either Council or privately provided) and</li> <li>90% were within 800 metres of playgrounds or reserves destinations.</li> </ul>

## Property

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<p><b>OPM-P1</b></p> <p>We have processes to ensure Council properties are used and maintained appropriately and safely.</p>	Percent of buildings with compliance schedules that will have current building WOF.	100% of buildings.	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <p>100% (22/22) of buildings with compliance schedules have a current building WOF.</p>
<p><b>OPM-P2</b></p> <p>We have processes to ensure Council properties are used and maintained appropriately and safely.</p>	Planned maintenance of Council owned properties as detailed in the asset register is carried out or appropriately deferred.	Achieve	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <p>19/21 planned maintenance of Council owned properties were carried out or appropriately deferred as detailed in the asset register.</p>

## Representation and Community Leadership

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-RCL1</b> Māori engagement is improved.	A Māori Engagement Framework is developed, implemented and monitored.	Achieve	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Iwi/Hapū Relationships Framework was adopted by Council in August 2025.</li> <li>The new name is Tiraki and it is available on our Council website.</li> <li>Work is being undertaken to operationalise the framework. Latest progress includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Implementation Plan Proposal – in progress to ELT.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Community Support

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report																				
<b>OPM-CS1</b> Māori aspirations are supported.	Number of local programmes, grants and activities that respond to Māori aspirations.	Increase baseline: Baseline for 2025/26: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2 local programmes</li> <li>25 grants and</li> <li>10 activities</li> </ul>	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p> <p>No local programmes, 20 grants and 10 activities responded to Māori aspirations.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>Programmes</th> <th>Grants</th> <th>Activities</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>July 2025</td> <td colspan="3">Baseline established</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Aug 2025</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sept 2025</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oct 2025</td> <td>0</td> <td>11</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Month	Programmes	Grants	Activities	July 2025	Baseline established			Aug 2025	0	0	2	Sept 2025	0	0	3	Oct 2025	0	11	2
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July 2025	Baseline established																						
Aug 2025	0	0	2																				
Sept 2025	0	0	3																				
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Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report			
			Nov 2025	0	0	1
			Dec 2025	0	0	0
			Jan 2026	0	0	0
			Feb 2026	0	4	0
			March 2026	0	3	0
			April 2026	0	2	2
			<b>YTD</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>OPM-CS2</b>	Number of opportunities to connect supported by Council.	≥ 30	<b>On track</b>			
The wellbeing of our diversity community is enhanced through opportunities to connect.			As at 30 April 2026 43 opportunities to connect were supported by Council:			
			<b>Month</b>	<b>No. of opportunities</b>		
			July 2025	4		
			Aug 2025	9		
			Sept 2025	3		
			Oct 2025	7		
			Nov 2025	1		
			Dec 2025	3		
			Jan 2026	1		
			Feb 2026	7		
			March 2026	3		
			April 2026	5		
			<b>YTD</b>	<b>43</b>		

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report																								
<b>OPM-CS3</b> Provide opportunities for community organisations to train staff in essential skills and increase overall capability of our workforce.	Number of individuals participating in Capacity and Capability Building Programme workshops or training over the year.	≥ 200	<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 77 individuals participated in Capacity and Capability Building Programme workshops or training year to date.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Month</th> <th>No. of opportunities</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>July 2025</td><td>32</td></tr> <tr><td>Aug 2025</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>Sept 2025</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>Oct 2025</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>Nov 2025</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>Dec 2025</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Jan 2026</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>Feb 2026</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>March 2026</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td>April 2026</td><td>0</td></tr> <tr><td><b>YTD</b></td><td><b>77</b></td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>As a result of staffing shortages and reprioritisation of workloads, the team has not been able to deliver as many Capacity and Capability Building Workshops. Unfortunately, the workshop we hosted in April (requested by one of networks) on finances and budgeting had no one show up. However, there are a few more workshops underway for May. The reduced number of workshops has resulted in significant savings in our budget.</p>	Month	No. of opportunities	July 2025	32	Aug 2025	12	Sept 2025	5	Oct 2025	12	Nov 2025	16	Dec 2025	0	Jan 2026	0	Feb 2026	0	March 2026	0	April 2026	0	<b>YTD</b>	<b>77</b>
Month	No. of opportunities																										
July 2025	32																										
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April 2026	0																										
<b>YTD</b>	<b>77</b>																										

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-CS4</b> Youth who are not in education or work are supported onto a positive pathway to training or employment.	Number of youths supported into employment or training.	≥ 40	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026 62 young people were supported into employment or training. This included 19 employment placements and 43 young people who received training or drivers licencing support.
<b>OPM-CS5</b> Connecting our community and Council through authentic engagement.	Increase our Net Promotor Score <sup>14</sup> .	Increase by 8.0 points year on year.	<b>Unable to Report</b>  The next Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey results will be available in June 2026.
<b>OPM-CS6</b> Connecting our community and Council through authentic engagement.	Increase brand perception via overall customer satisfaction <sup>15</sup> .	Increase by 6% year on year.	<b>Unable to Report</b>  The next Annual Customer Satisfaction Survey results will be available in June 2026.
<b>OPM-CS7</b> Drive sustainable visitor growth to the district, build local tourism capability and work	Increase total number of engaged sessions <sup>16</sup> to <a href="https://horowhenuanz.co.nz">https://horowhenuanz.co.nz</a> .	Increase by 10% year on year.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026, the total number of engaged sessions increased to 54,025, up from 48,669 during the same period the previous year, an 11% year-on-year increase.

<sup>14</sup> NPS measures the loyalty of customers to a company. NPS scores are measured with a single-question survey and reported with a number from the range -100 to +100, a higher score is desirable.

<sup>15</sup> A Customer Satisfaction score gauges how happy consumers are with a purchase or interaction.

<sup>16</sup> Engaged Sessions - how many of our visitors are “engaged” with our website? Google Analytics will count a session as engaged if (1) it lasts longer than 10 seconds, (2) it includes at least one conversion and (3) it includes two or more page views.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
alongside iwi, business and community to achieve favourable economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes.			
<b>OPM-CS8</b> Drive sustainable visitor growth to the district, build local tourism capability and work alongside iwi, business and community to achieve favourable economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes.	Increase total number of website referrals <sup>17</sup> from <a href="https://horowhenuanz.co.nz">https://horowhenuanz.co.nz</a> .	Increase by 10% year on year.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026, the total number of website referrals for the year was 21,245, up from 15,358 during the same period the previous year, a 38% year-on-year increase.
<b>OPM-CS9</b> Using data and insights to drive positive change in the organisation.	Demonstrate use of Voice of Customer insights to improve customer experience and service delivery.	Narrative describing improvements made using voice of the customer data.	<b>On track</b>  As at 30 April 2026, three customer pulse surveys have been sent to customers who have lodged a service request with Council since December 2025.  Improvements made using voice of the customer data include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improvement in public information available on the website.</li> </ul>

<sup>17</sup> Website Referrals means outbound link clicks to local businesses or experiences.

Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adding content to Kbase to assist with customer enquiries faster.</li> </ul>
<b>OPM-CS10</b> Staff have knowledge and understanding to effectively engage with Māori.	A cultural competence framework <sup>18</sup> is developed and milestones are met.	100% of milestones.	<p><b>Unable to report</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 The cultural competence framework is still in development and will not be adopted during this financial year.</p>
<b>OPM-CS11</b> Provide funding for projects and initiatives that build partnerships and are community-led.	Successful grant applications demonstrate benefits that align to Council's outcomes and priorities.	≥ 95%	<p><b>On track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026 100% of successful Round 1 grant applications (closed on 31 August 2025) demonstrated benefits that align to Council's outcomes and priorities.</p> <p>The accountability reports for the Round 1 grant application accountabilities are due on 31 July 2026.</p>

## Regulatory Services

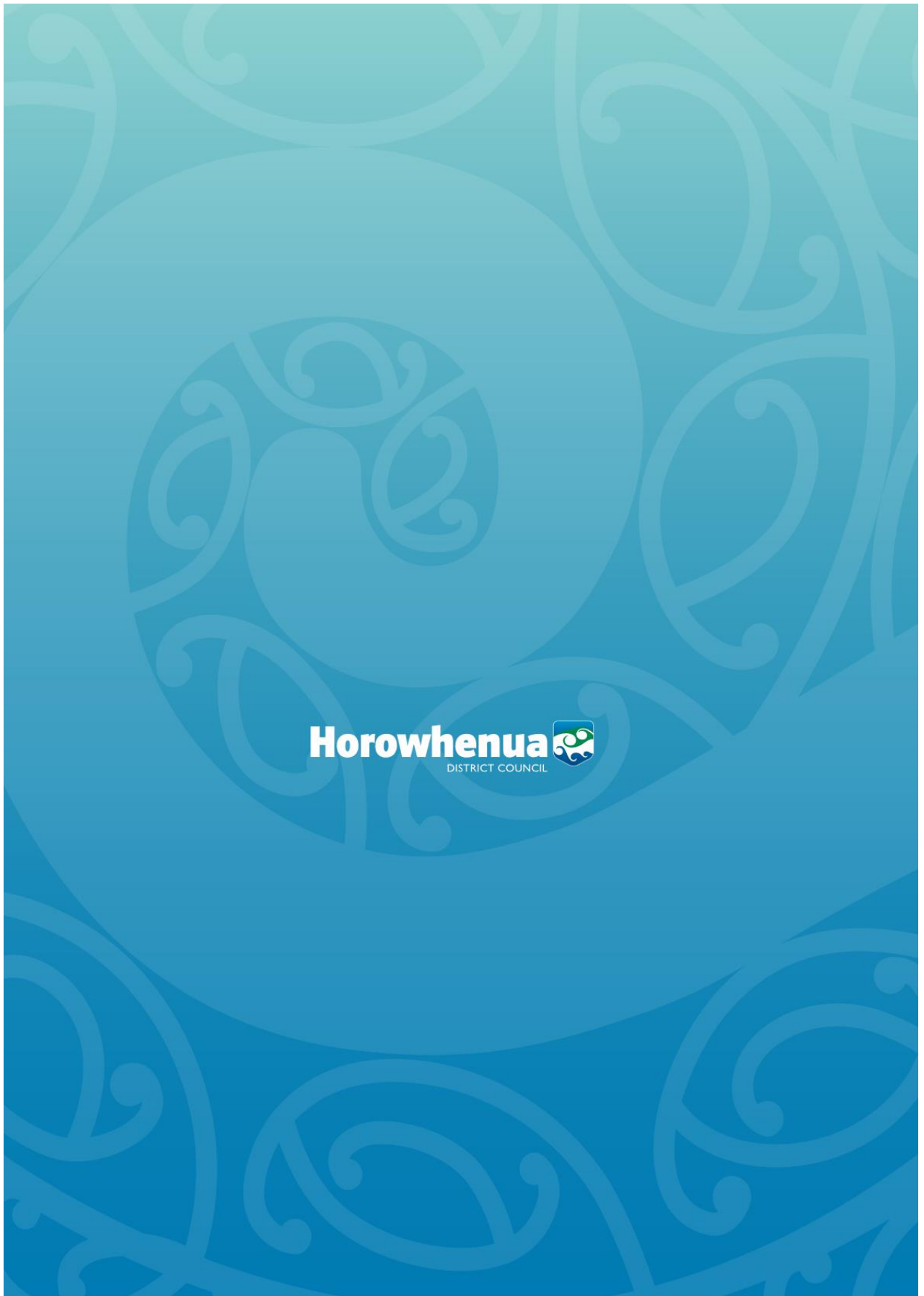
Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
<b>OPM-RS1</b> Community wellbeing is protected by being kept	The percentage of cases of non-compliance for dogs that are classified as dangerous or	≥ 95%	<p><b>Not on track</b></p> <p>As at 30 April 2026</p>

<sup>18</sup> May include core competency areas such as Te Reo Māori, Te Ao Māori, Kawa & Tikanga, Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Engagement with Māori.

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Ref & Service	How performance is measured	Target	On track/Not on track/Unable to report
safe from dogs identified as posing the most risk.	menacing, reach compliance within 3 months.		66.67% (12/18) cases of non-compliance for dogs that are classified as dangerous or menacing, reached compliance within 3 months.

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File No.: 26/356

## 8.2 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2026

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### 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.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/356 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2026 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 <a href="#">↓</a>	Council Actions Monitoring Report - June 2026	262

## Council Actions Monitoring Report June 2026

	Completed
	In progress
	Transferred
	Waiting on third party
	Off track

Reference	Resolution/Action	Officer	Due date	Status	Officer Update
CO/2023/146	That Council direct the Chief Executive to meet with executive leaders of Horizons and other parties including the Manawatū 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		Discussions regarding the future ownership and management of the Foxton Wharf remain ongoing between the Department of Conservation (DoC), iwi/hapū, Council, and other stakeholders. DoC has recently indicated it is keen to engage directly with Ngā Hapū and Council to discuss the future of the asset. Council officers will continue to support and participate in these discussions where appropriate. Given the ongoing uncertainty regarding future ownership and governance arrangements, no structural assessment has been commissioned at this stage, with further consideration to be informed by the outcomes of those discussions.
20	Council to continue to lobby Central Government in relation to	D McCorkindale	On-going		An initial proposal for the Foxton River Loop project was submitted to assess eligibility

Last Updated: June 2026

	<p>the River Loop as it was not a Council decision initially that gave rise to this issue.</p>				<p>under the Regional Infrastructure Fund. Following further engagement with Kānoa, the proposal has been revisited at the request of Minister Shane Jones. Kānoa have advised through THCL that the proposal has been reviewed by the regional leads and is unlikely to be put forward for funding.</p> <p>Once this has been formally confirmed with SORT, Council officers will seek to understand from SORT what their next move will be and where can may be best placed to offer support</p>
	<p>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.</p>	<p>L Winiata</p>	<p>Jan 2023</p>		<p>Four potential names were provided by Te Tūmatakahuki.</p> <p>Following this, Officers sought feedback from Rangitāne and have since also received feedback from Muaūpoko. Officers understand that Rangitāne intended to undertake further discussions with Te Tūmatakahuki regarding the proposed names. At the time of writing, Officers have not received an update on the outcome or current status of those discussions.</p>

Last Updated: June 2026

					Once a shared position has been reached between the relevant iwi and hapū, Officers will provide a briefing to the TAFCB.
<b>CO/2025/115</b>	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.	L Winiata	30/06/2026		Officers repeated attempts to contact the private landowners on the other side of the bridge have not been successful.
<b>CO/2025/119</b>	That Council liaise with relevant agencies and landowners with the goal of addressing the need for dog control measures in the Manawatū Estuary.	V Miller	30/06/2026		Conversations with landowner/responsible persons is underway. Consideration of updated signage and additional unscheduled patrols of the area (resourcing permitting).
<b>CO/2025/171</b>	That Council endorses the Levin Closed Landfill Management Plan (CLMP) [in principle]. The CLMP is an aftercare plan, setting out management, maintenance and operation of the Closed Levin Landfill. This is a	D Haigh	30/06/2026		The draft CLMP has been sent to Horizons as part of the resource consent application for their initial review and feedback.

Last Updated: June 2026

	living document that includes monitoring and proposed operational requirements for Leachate BPO projects that will continue to be developed alongside Iwi partners, owners, PMG and NLG.				
<b>CO/2025/172</b>	<p>That Council endorses approach to continue enhancing the monitoring framework related to leachate from the old Levin landfill to inform ongoing analysis and decisions on mitigation requirements to maintain compliance with consent conditions, and the Landfill Agreement.</p> <p>That Council notes funding to continue researching and validating alternate opportunities including onsite treatment of leachate, additional capping of the Old Levin Landfill or wetland</p>	D Haigh	30/06/2027		The initial site visit was completed in April. A survey of the Hōkio stream is planned, with dates to be confirmed, subject to permission from LHT. Staff are working to establish a process for engaging with LHT on works related to the Hokio Stream.

Last Updated: June 2026

	planting will come from the approved existing Best Practicable Option (BPO) funding.				
<b>CO/2025/173</b>	That Council notes Officers will be presenting back a report in December 2025, which takes on board expert peer review and iwi and community advice and voice, to set out the detailed delivery of landfill aftercare actions, as provided for in the Landfill Agreement and the Levin Closed Landfill Management Plan. This will provide recommendations to Council specifically on leachate intervention, capping of the old landfill and potential purchase of adjoining land for wetland creation.	D Haigh	30/06/2027		<p>A review of the investigative work on the movement of the leachate plume was completed in late 2025. The findings indicated that there is limited evidence to suggest that leachate migration from the landfill is currently, or is likely in the future, adversely affecting the Hōkio Stream.</p> <p>The review recommended a refined BPO, focused on enhanced monitoring, further site investigation, regular ecological assessments, and targeted management of pathways presenting the highest risk to the stream.</p> <p>The Advanced Monitoring Framework (AMF) forms a key component of this recommendation, and staff are currently working with stakeholders to progress this work.</p>
<b>CO/2025/238</b>	That Council requests Officers seek an easement with DoC and	B Harvey / L Winiata	31/12/2026		Officers lodged an application with the Department of Conservation in February. A site inspection was undertaken. DoC has

Last Updated: June 2026

	provides vehicle access to the beach across reserve land between 47-49 Manga Pirau Street Waikawa Beach.				assigned a permissions advisor and we are now awaiting next steps.
<b>CO/2025/240</b>	That Council requests Officers implement the following measures to support safe and considerate vehicle access via the existing track:  Installation of appropriate signage, similar to signage at other beach access location across the district, with signage also providing guidance on the suitability of the track for certain vehicle types only and other information relevant to the safe and appropriate use of the track.	B Harvey / L Winiata			The initial signage installed at summer remains in place.
	That Council requests Officers to work directly with neighbouring residents to identify and implement suitable				A resource consent for the fences has now been granted and Officers are now working with the neighbours to have these built. A planting plan is also underway.

Last Updated: June 2026

	<p>privacy measures, such as screening, planting, fencing, and parking controls, and that a portion of the existing budget be allocated to support agreed mitigation actions</p>			
	<p>That Council notes that the existing track, even once formalised with an easement on DoC land, will either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• be replaced by an alternative long-term access option in another location once confirmed by Council; or</li> <li>• be subject of further work, including survey work, consenting and physical improvements, should Council determine it appropriate to retain the existing track as the only viable permanent long-term</li> </ul>			<p>At this stage officers have not progressed further investigation into alternative access locations beyond the work previously presented to Council. Additional technical investigation or consenting work on the existing track is also not considered necessary unless Council determines that the current location should be progressed as a permanent long term access solution.</p>

Last Updated: June 2026

	option for beach vehicle access.				
	That Council confirms that the existing 2024-2044 Long Term Plan capital budget allocation for investigation and delivery of a long-term vehicle access solution for Waikawa Beach be maintained as a placeholder until such time that the direction is reconsidered as part of the 2027 Long Term Plan process, with options for carry over of an appropriate budget being presented at that time.				This will be done.
	That Council requests that if maintenance or safety issues arise on the existing track prior to a long-term solution being identified or implemented, Officers are authorised to take only the minimum necessary actions,				Monitoring of the track continue with requests or complaints also coming through Council's CRM system to identify trends over time. More recently, concerns have been raised by members of the community regarding changes to the river mouth and the potential impacts on pedestrian access around the beach. Officers are working with the local community group to understand the issues, consider available advice, and determine an

Last Updated: June 2026

	<p>consistent with maintaining safe passage of users, noting that any actions likely to trigger the requirement for a resource consent under the One Plan must be brought back to Council for direction.</p>				<p>appropriate course of action should any intervention be required. Any actions likely to trigger the requirement for a resource consent under the One Plan will be brought back to Council for direction.</p>
	<p>That Council requests Officers report back to Council by 30 October 2026 with the proposed scope and purpose of a Beach Bylaw development process, including estimated costs and a potential work programme for consideration as part of the 2027 Long Term Plan process.</p>		<p>30/10/2026</p>		<p>This will be done.</p>
	<p>That Council notes that planned capital works relating to the pedestrian footbridge are unaffected by the vehicle access resolutions, but also notes that any final</p>				<p>Noted.</p>

Last Updated: June 2026

	approval or permission from the adjoining private property owner - who currently permits pedestrian access beyond the bridge – may be contingent on certainty around future vehicle access arrangements at Waikawa Beach.				
<b>Resolution CO/2026/02</b>	THAT Council approves the inclusion of \$230,000 in the debt funded Operational Expenditure budget for the acquisition of a hose-layer appliance built to Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) specifications and approves the gifting of the appliance to FENZ.	B Spencer	Ongoing		Continuing to work through process and policy detail both within HDC and FENZ in preparation to move forward. Current funding for future sourcing of the proposed appliance sits in the 2026/27 financial year. Process is ongoing.
<b>CO/2026/61</b>	That Council undertake limited consultation on the Solid Waste Bylaw, to meet the requirements in sections 160 and 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.	D Haigh	31/12/2026		In progress, paper to 24 June Council meeting.

Last Updated: June 2026

<b>CO/2026/64</b>	That Council approve the proposed retrofitting of existing road name blades associated with Military Personnel to include a poppy motif to be undertaken by Poppy Places and/or the New Zealand Remembrance Army and/or their subcontractors.	L Poynton	31/12/2026		Simon Strombon of the NZ Remembrance Army has been informed that the offer has been accepted, officers will liaise with Simon as this project continues. Eleven Poppy Place streets have been identified in Levin.
	That any road name blades to be retrofitted with the poppy motif shall be identified and advised to Council's Roading Department at least five working days prior to works being undertaken.				Poppy Places and the NZ Remembrance Army has been advised of the five working day notice period, to ensure that Council is aware of any works affecting street signs.
<b>CO/2026/65</b>	That officers prepares an additional policy supplement that covers revocation road naming, and this is presented back to Council for endorsement, within three months	L Poynton	31/12/2026		Underway and will be ready for Council at the end of July, pending a workshop prior..
<b>CO/2026/92</b>	That the Horowhenua District Council votes for Brendan DUFFY and Russell LONGUET and	A Huria	05/06/2026		Votes electronically submitted on 28 May 2026

Last Updated: June 2026

	Clint SMITH in the 2026 Electra Trust elections.				
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Last Updated: June 2026



File No.: 26/377

## 8.3 Long Term Plan 2024-44 Actions Monitoring Report

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to present to Council the ongoing monitoring report, which reflects the progress of those actions and recommendations from the Long Term Plan 2024 - 44.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Council receive and note Report 26/377 Long Term Plan 2024-44 Actions Monitoring Report.

### BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. During deliberations for the Long Term Plan 2022-2044, Council gave direction on a number of actions and recommendations, which are recorded in the attached monitoring report.
3. It is intended for this report to be presented to Council on a quarterly basis.

#### **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 href="#">A</a>	LTP Actions Monitoring 2024-2044 - June 2026	276

MONITORING REPORT – Long Term Plan 2024/2044 – June 2026					
					Completed
					In Progress
					Halted
					Off Track
Topic/Reference	Resolved/Actions	Officer	Action by Date	Status	Officer Update
CO/2024/151	That Council direct officers to undertake pre-engagement with the community on potential beach management strategies that Council may consider.	B Harvey	30/06/2025	In Progress	Officers are continuing to work with key community interest groups and stakeholders on strategies, with the stakeholders also contributing to ideas for a potential beach bylaw process which Council will consider end of October.
CO/2024/152	That Council direct officers to update the Horowhenua Road Safety Group's Terms of Reference.	D Haigh	30/06/2025	Halted	Officers have halted progression, HRC no longer facilitate these meetings. The Group provided limited operational value while it was in place, benefits are currently better provided through the Older Person's Network.
CO/2024/154	d) Officers engage with Council's Iwi/hapū partners and report back to Council by December 2024 on the options for progressing a District Plan Change to protect Wahi Tapu.	L Baddock	31/12/2024	Halted	Central Government have directed a stop on Council led plan change work meaning that any work officers were advancing for preparing a plan change for Wahi Tapu sites has stopped.  With several Horowhenua Iwi taking the opportunity to initiate Mana Whakahono ā Rohe with Council, it provides an opportunity to explore how their cultural values and interests can be recognised and acknowledged in a resource management context ahead of impending RMA reform.

As at 16 June 2026

MONITORING REPORT – Long Term Plan 2024/2044 – June 2026					
					Completed
					In Progress
					Halted
					Off Track
Topic/Reference	Resolved/Actions	Officer	Action by Date	Status	Officer Update
	g) Officers progress opportunities to give resolution to the water wheel project in Shannon.	B Harvey	30/06/2025		Officers floated a potential solution with the community, however were told that through the Community Plan process the community no longer view this as a priority.
	i) Officers capture Fale Pasifika when planning for public infrastructure in the long term.	D McCorkindale D Haigh	30/06/2025		Officers will consider appropriate and effective ways to capture Fale Pasifika views when consulting the community on the upcoming Long Term Plan 2027.
	j) Officers undertake a stock take on lease agreements and report back to Council with this information including an assessment on the current leasing policy.	B Harvey	30/06/2025		A stocktake on the lease agreements have been undertaken and shared with Council.  An update to the Community Leases Policy is still ongoing and will be brought to Council for a workshop.



File No.: 26/348

## 8.4 Proceedings of the Joint Shareholders Committee - Central Districts Water

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to Council the Joint Shareholders Committee – Central District Water meetings held on 22 May 2026.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/348 Proceedings of the Joint Shareholders Committee - Central Districts Water be received and noted.

### DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. Set out below are the recommendations only from the Joint Shareholders' Committee – Central District Water meeting Part I Public held 22 May 2026 The Council may resolve to adopt, amend, receive, note or not adopt any such recommendations. (SO 2.18.1)

#### 15-26 Reporting protocols of Committee

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

#### The COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

1. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapuwae o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.
3. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders' Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders' Committee representatives for that Council.

#### **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**

<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<a href="#">A↓</a>	Minutes - Joint Shareholders Committee - Central Districts Water - 22 May 2026	281

**Minutes of the Joint Shareholders' Committee - Central Districts Water Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on 22 May 2026, commencing at 10.05am.**

**Members Present:** Mr Chris Gallavin (in the Chair)) and Councillors Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

**Members Present online:** The Mayor (Grant Smith), Ms Danielle Harris

**Non Members:** Ms Di Rump

**Karakia Timatanga**

Mr Hayden Turoa opened the meeting with karakia.

**14-26 Late Item**

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Mayor Andy Watson.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee agree the late item.

**Reasons for lateness:** Timing of Committee agenda did not align with Board agenda preparation.

**Reasons for urgency:** Progress will be out of date by the time the Committee next meets in August.

Clause 14-26 above was carried 9 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, and Mr Hayden Turoa.

Ms Marj Heeney entered the meeting at 10.14am.

**Draft Statement of Expectations**

Memorandum, presented by Chris Gallavin, Committee Chair.

The Committee shared their thoughts on the revised draft.



JOINT SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE - CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER - PART I - 22 MAY 2026

The Chair summarised that themes raised which had received the broad agreement of the room were:

- The document be written in a way that gives customers assurance- this may mean being more directive in the first year
- Sections referring to relationship to be strengthened
- References to affordability should be refined to reference the obligation committed to in the Water Services Delivery Plan
- The length of the initial Statement of Expectations to be a year in the establishment phase
- More refinement needed of local statements
- Improve clarity re: what the Company is to report on (including that reporting be forward looking)

15-26

**Reporting protocols of Committee**

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapuwae o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.
3. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders' Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders' Committee representatives for that Council.

Clause 15-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

16-26

**Confirmation of meeting schedule**

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Ms Marj Heeney.



JOINT SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE - CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER - PART I - 22 MAY 2026

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee agree the schedule of meetings set out in section 2 of this memorandum, noting change of start time for 26 June 2026 and locations of all meetings.

Clause 16-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

**Transition update from Chief Executives**

Memorandum, presented by Chris Dhyrberg, Executive Director.

The Committee received the update.

**Karakia Whakamutunga**

Mayor Wanden closed the meeting by leading the group in karakia.

The meeting finished at 12.02pm.

Confirmed 26 June 2026

**Chairperson**

UNCONFIRMED



File No.: 26/349

## 9.1 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee - 27 May 2026

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 27 May 2026.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/349 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee - 27 May 2026 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 27 May 2026 at 10:00 am.

#### PRESENT

<b>Chairperson</b>	Councillor Jo Mason
<b>Mayor</b>	His Workship the Mayor Bernie Wanden ( <i>Apology</i> )
<b>Councillors</b>	Cr Katrina Mitchell-Kouttab
<b>Members</b>	Amarjit Maxwell
	Beth Purcell
	Dr Betty-Lou Iwikau
	Maggie Regan
	Michael Fletcher
	Jacqui Moynihan ( <i>Apology</i> )
	Neville Heihei
	Paul McMillian ( <i>Apology</i> )
	Joanne Parker
	Kylie Turuwhenua-Tapsell
	Sarah Elliot
	Rebecca Kinloch ( <i>Apology</i> )
	Leigh McMeeken
	Patrick Rennell
	Mel Baxer
	Simon Kuiti
	Cacia Wall
	Lael Marshall

#### IN ATTENDANCE

<b>Reporting Officer</b>	Mark Hammond	Community Facilities and Services Manager
	David McCorkindale	Group Manager Community Vision and Delivery
	Alison Diaz	Chief Financial Officer
	Julia Atkins	Community Development Team Lead
	Emma Gowan	Community Development Advisor
<b>Meeting Secretary</b>	Laura Fisher	Community Development Advisor
	Alice Petersen	Democracy Support Officer

**1 Apologies**

**Apology**

**Resolution number CWCCC/2026/5**

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Cr Mitchell-Kouttab:

That the apology from members Mayor Bernie Wanden, Paul McMillian, Rebecca Kinloch and Jacqui Moynihan be accepted.

**CARRIED**

**2 Late Items**

There were no late items.

**3 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest. Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest in writing they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

**4 Confirmation of Minutes**

**Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/6**

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Kylie Turuwhenua-Tapsell:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee held on Wednesday, 25 February 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record

**CARRIED**

Announcement following meeting. HNZ trust confirmed project lift is not happening at this time. Thanked for time and effort.

**5 Reports for Decision**

## 5.1 Community Safety Forum Proposal

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report was present to seek endorsement from the Community Wellbeing Committee for the establishment of a Community Safety Forum, in line with the Community Wellbeing Strategy *Hapori Pakari, Strong Communities 2024-27*.

Officers introduced the report, highlighting its alignment with the Community Wellbeing Strategy. Officers outlined the proposed next steps should the initiative be endorsed and invited feedback on the suggested organisations and groups involved.

Committee Chair Cr Mason opened the floor for questions and comments. A representative from the Department of Corrections expressed positive support for the initiative and welcomed the opportunity to connect and collaborate through more focused engagement sessions. A representative from Oranga Tamariki noted the absence of faith based organisations and representation from the southern end of the district within the proposed group. This feedback was acknowledged, and officers confirmed they would work to identify and engage with relevant organisations to address these gaps.

### Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/7

MOVED by Leigh McMeeken, seconded Beth Purcell:

- A. That the Committee endorses the establishment of the Horowhenua Community Safety Forum.
- B. That the Committee approves the appointment of Councillor Mitchell-Kouttab as Chair of the Horowhenua Community Safety Forum.
- C. That the Committee endorses the participation of the key agencies, organisations and community groups outlined in paragraph 14 of this report in the Horowhenua Community Safety Forum

**CARRIED**

## 5.2 Community Wellbeing Committee Priorities - Safe and Connected Community Report

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report as presented to provide the Community Wellbeing Committee with a detailed look at the activities and services taking place in Horowhenua that increase connection and make our community safer. This report follows the Committee's decision to concentrate on five priority areas of focus for 2026, the first being *Safe and Connected Community*.

Officers introduced the report, providing background context and noting its alignment with the "Safe and Connected" theme of the meeting. They outlined key areas of focus and highlighted specific questions where they were seeking feedback from the Committee.

Representatives from various agencies provided updates on their current activities and initiatives aimed at supporting a safe and connected community and what the role of the Community Wellbeing Committee is.

The Chair thanked all representatives for their contributions to the discussion.

Officers provided a summary of key themes heard during the discussion, including:

- The importance of fostering a connected community and strengthening relationships across organisations.
- Enhancing a sense of place and belonging, with specific reference to the role of marae.
- The value of sharing positive community stories, including opportunities to promote Horowhenua through coordinated marketing initiatives, potentially under Council's destination management approach.

#### **Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/8**

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Michael Fletcher:

- A. That the Committee notes the work being undertaken to contribute building a Safe and Connected Horowhenua Community.
- B. That the Committee contributes to a discussion about other initiatives supporting a Safe and Connected Community that are taking place in the district.
- C. The Committee agrees to undertake agreed actions to respond to specific challenges the community is facing.

**CARRIED**

## **7 Reports for Noting**

### **6.1 Community Wellbeing Network Report**

#### **Purpose | TE PŪTAKE**

This report presents the Community Wellbeing Network Report to discuss and highlight grassroots issues, ideas, and or concerns present within the community and identified by Council's Community Networks.

Officers introduced the report noting that there was representatives of many of the networks present and invited them to speak to their report and highlight details of note.

Updates were provided by representatives or Council Officers of Youth Voice, Horowhenua Access and Inclusion Network, Horowhenua Older Person's Network, Education Horowhenua Network, Horowhenua Youth Services Network, Horowhenua Former Refugee Support Committee, Housing Matters, and Mana Kai Initiative.

#### **Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/9**

MOVED by Maggie Regan, seconded Cr Mitchell-Kouttab:

- A. That Report 26/170 Community Wellbeing Network Report be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

## 6.2 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report presented the Community Wellbeing Dashboard is to provide the Community with a visual dashboard that presents data and analysis, while also assisting in tracking the priority areas of the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

Officers introduced the report, noting the data is a snapshot at the time of publicly available. Officers took questions from the committee.

### Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/10

MOVED by Sarah Elliot, seconded Kylie Turuwhenua-Tapsell:

- A. That Report 26/171 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

## 6.3 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report presented the Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report to highlight progress made against the Community Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan.

Officers introduced the report sharing highlights from the last quarter that align with the each of the focus areas.

### Resolution Number CWCCC/2026/11

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Cr Mitchell-Kouttab:

- A. That Report 26/172 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

11.54 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.: 26/350

## 9.2 Proceedings of the Risk and Assurance Committee - 20 May 2026

Author(s)	Alice Petersen <b>Support Officer - Democracy   Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori</b>
Approved by	Brent Harvey <b>Acting Chief Executive   Group Manager - Community Experience &amp; Services   Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapo</b>

### PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 20 May 2026.

### RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 26/350 Proceedings of the Risk and Assurance Committee - 20 May 2026 and the minutes be received and noted.

### DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. The Risk and Assurance Committee endorsed and recommended Council adopt the Risk Appetite Statements.
3. The Risk and Assurance Committee endorsed and recommend Council adopt the change to section 3.1 Risk Appetite in the Risk Management Framework.
4. These items will be considered by Council earlier in the Agenda.

#### **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

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## Risk and Assurance Committee

### OPEN MINUTES UNCONFIRMED

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Minutes of a meeting of Risk and Assurance Committee held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Wednesday 20 May 2026 at 10:00 am.

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#### PRESENT

**Chairperson**  
**Members**

Cr Sam Jennings  
His Worship the Mayor Bernie Wanden  
Cr Alan Young  
Cr Nola Fox  
Cr Morgan Gray  
Cr Mike Barker  
Jenny Livschitz  
Sarah Everton

*Apology*  
Independent Member  
Independent Member

#### IN ATTENDANCE

**Reporting Officer**

Nicki Brady  
Monique Davidson  
Daniel Haigh  
Blair Spencer  
Alison Diaz  
Steve Tanner  
Pei Shan Gan  
Ashley Huria  
Catherine Godfrey  
Tanya Glavas  
Eve Hayes  
Christian Redgewell

Group Manager - Capability and Transformation  
Chief Executive  
Group Manager - Community Infrastructure  
Group Manager - Housing and Business Development  
Chief Financial Officer  
Financial Services Manager  
Principal Advisor  
Business Performance Manager  
Risk Advisor  
Safety and Wellbeing Lead  
ICT Operations Lead  
Information Services Consultant

**Meeting Secretary**

Alice Petersen  
Grayson Rowse  
Democracy Support Officer  
Principal Advisor – Democracy

**1 Apologies**

**Resolution number RAACC/2026/11**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Wanden:

That the apology from Councillor Mike Barker accepted.

**CARRIED**

**2 Late Items**

There were not late items.

**3 Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4 Confirmation of Minutes**

**Resolution Number RAACC/2026/12**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Fox:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Risk and Assurance Committee held on Wednesday, 11 February 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

That the minutes of the meeting of the Public Excluded Meeting of the Risk and Assurance Committee held on Wednesday, 11 February 2026, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

**6 Reports for Decision**

**5.1 Risk Appetite**

**Purpose | TE PŪTAKE**

This report was presented to inform the Risk and Assurance Committee on the risk appetite work and seek the Committee's endorsement for the Risk Appetite Statements and updated Risk Appetite section in the Risk Management Framework.

**Resolution Number RAACC/2026/13**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

A. That Report 26/246 Risk Appetite be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

The Chair introduced the report, noting the workshops held with the full Council and outlining its purpose. It was emphasised that, should the Risk and Assurance Committee endorse the report, Council will have the opportunity to debate the matter further.

Officers then presented the report, acknowledging the contributions of elected members and staff in completing this complex piece of work. They highlighted the workshops and survey that informed the development of the risk appetite statement, and noted amendments made in response to feedback received on the draft. It was also highlighted that the risk appetite can be reviewed as circumstances change, particularly within the current reform environment.

The Chair recognised the significant effort involved in the process before opening to the table for questions. Officers responded to queries from the table, covering changes to settings, internal processes, definitions, and levels of comfort.

#### **Resolution Number RAACC/2026/14**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Fox:

- B. That the Risk and Assurance Committee endorse the Risk Appetite Statements and recommend to Council for adoption.
- C. That the Risk and Assurance Committee endorse the change to section 3.1 Risk Appetite in the Risk Management Framework and recommend to Council for adoption.

**CARRIED**

## **7 Reports for Noting**

### **6.1 Health, Safety and Wellbeing - Quarterly Report - January to March 2026**

#### **Purpose | TE PŪTAKE**

This report was presented to provide the Committee with Health, Safety and Wellbeing information and insights for the quarter from January to March 2026.

#### **Resolution number RAACC/2026/15**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/238 Health, Safety and Wellbeing - Quarterly Report - January to March 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

Officers introduced the report, highlighting a continued focus on improvement. Questions were raised regarding threatening behaviour and clarification of the scope, with it confirmed that the matters discussed apply across all areas, particularly public facing spaces. In relation to contractor reporting, it was noted that Green by Nature has a strong reporting culture, and therefore the higher number of reports is not considered a concern. Officers also clarified that risk reporting is primarily a matter of data clarity, with reported risks not necessarily indicating that an incident has occurred, but rather that risks have been identified and resolved.

## 6.2 Financial Dashboard as at 31 March 2026

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report provides the Committee with a high-level overview of financial performance and position as at March 2026, including key trends and watch points for the 2026/27 financial year.

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/16

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/257 Financial Dashboard as at 31 March 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

Officers introduced the report, noting that the dashboard focuses on risk and assurance rather than financial performance. It highlighted that operational expenditure is being tightly managed.

An error in the capital expenditure chart was identified, with \$77 million corrected to \$47 million. Questions from the table focused on confidence in the positive outlook, and debt to operating ratios and their importance for credit ratings. It was also noted that a positive culture supported by monthly budget reviews is in place.

Discussion covered the potential impact of capital expenditure on the Annual Plan, and that a more proactive debtor management approach is delivering results.

## 6.3 Sensitive Expenditure Report

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report was presented to provide the information required for the Committee to note Sensitive Expenditure of the Mayor, Elected Members and Chief Executive for compliance with Council's Sensitive Expenditure Policy.

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/17

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/254 Sensitive Expenditure Report be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

## 6.5 Update on Fraud Risk Assessment

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report was presented to provide an update on the Fraud Work Programme 2025/26, presents key findings from the fraud risk assessment, outlines key risks and proposed mitigation actions, and seeks Committee's endorsement of the forward roadmap.

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/18

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/252 Update on Fraud Risk Assessment be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

Officers introduced the report, highlighting the success of all staff training and the importance of this to support good reporting and the shared desire to do the right thing.

Discussion highlighted finance and procurement as the top risk areas, with targeted reviews being considered. While staff are confident in reporting, it was acknowledged that there can be uncertainty around what to look for, which is being addressed through training.

Officers confirmed that the internal audit programme will include procurement, and that controls are regularly reviewed with multiple staff involved. Further assurance will be brought to the next meeting.

### Resolution Number RAACC/2026/19

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Young:

- B. That the Risk and Assurance Committee note the progress of the Fraud Work Programme.
- C. That the Risk and Assurance Committee note the findings of the Fraud Risk Assessment.
- D. That the Risk and Assurance Committee note Appendix A Fraud Risk Assessment – Data Visualisations
- E. That the Risk and Assurance Committee endorse the phased roadmap and focus areas.

**CARRIED**

#### 6.4 Treasury Update - April 2026

##### **Purpose | TE PŪTAKE**

This report was presented to update the committee on the treasury activity for the last quarter, which is outlined in the Bancorp Treasury Reporting Dashboard as at 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

##### **Resolution number RAACC/2026/20**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/258 Treasury Update - April 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

Mile O'Connor, Manager Corporate Services at Bancorp Treasury Services, together with Council officers, presented the treasury update to the Committee. The presentation covered key economic factors including inflation, global pressures, current interest rates, swaps, and interest rate projections.

##### **Resolution Number RAACC/2026/21**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Fox:

- B. That the Committee notes the Bancorp Treasury Reporting Dashboard as at 5<sup>th</sup> May 2026.

**CARRIED**

#### 6.6 Audit Plan for the year ending 30 June 2026

##### **Purpose | TE PŪTAKE**

This report was presented to provide the Committee with the audit plan received from Audit New Zealand and outlines the approach being taken to mitigate the identified risks and issues.

##### **Resolution number RAACC/2026/22**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/268 Audit Plan for the year ending 30 June 2026 be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

Clint Ramoo from Audit New Zealand joined Council officers to present the report, highlighting key audit focus areas including fraud, revaluations, and the Three Waters transfer. It was noted that the Long-Term Plan is particularly complex, with a key area of focus being the deliverability of the capital programme.

## 6.7 Continuous Improvement and Audit Actions Monitoring Report

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report presented updates to the Risk and Assurance Committee on progress on the action items from previous resolutions.

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/23

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/255 Continuous Improvement and Audit Actions Monitoring Report be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

## 6.8 Update on Three Waters Compliance

### Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

This report provided an update on the risks associated with Horowhenua District Council's three waters operations, focused on compliance and enforcement risks relating to wastewater, stormwater and drinking water activities.

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/24

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/278 Update on Three Waters Compliance be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

## 6.9 Campgrounds and Reserves Risk

### Resolution number RAACC/2026/25

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

- A. That Report 26/260 Campgrounds and Reserves Risk be received and noted.

**CARRIED**

### Resolution Number RAACC/2026/26

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Fox:

That item 6.9 Campgrounds and Reserves Risk is to lie on the table until the next Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting on 12 August 2026 and not be further discussed at this meeting.

**CARRIED**

**9 Procedural motion to exclude the public**

**Resolution Number RAACC/2026/27**

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Cr Fox:

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 Legislative Compliance**

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	s7(2)(j) - The withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.
<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	The report contains information about identified vulnerabilities. Public disclosure could enable improper gain or advantage by facilitating exploitation of those vulnerabilities and compromising risk management strategies..

**C2 Voluntary Disclosure to Inland Revenue Department**

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).
<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	Voluntary Disclosure process with IRD is not yet completed and is at a sensitive stage in the process..

**C3 ICT Identity, Access Management and Security Deep Dive**

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	s7(2)(j) - The withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.

<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	The nature of the report and its attachments could provide opportunities for hackers to target HDC due to the vulnerabilities that are described and details of systems/servers provided.

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**

12.01 pm 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.

12.35 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD  
AT A MEETING OF RISK AND ASSURANCE  
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 Budget Increase Levin Water Treatment Plant - Design and Construction of New Clarifier Bypass and Standby UV Installation

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	Commerical negotiations.

### C2 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2026

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	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. s7(2)(j) - The withholding of the information is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.
<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	hese 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..

**C3 Proceedings of the Risk and Assurance Committee - 20 May 2026**

<b>Reason:</b>	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.
<b>Interests:</b>	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.
<b>Grounds:</b>	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.
<b>Plain English Reason:</b>	The minutes of this meeting are withheld from the public because the matters discussed were commercially sensitive. If the discussion had been held in public, it could have weakened Council's commercial position in ongoing development negotiations.