



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 28 September 2023

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Chair: HWTM Andy Watson

Deputy Chair: Cr Dave Wilson

Membership: Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Jarrod Calkin
Cr Fi Dalgety

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<u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton	<u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls	<u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape		
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Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 28 September 2023 at 1.00pm.

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AGENDA

1 Welcome / Prayer

2 Apologies

3 Public Forum

Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur will speak in relation to recommendations from the Taihape Community Board.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

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

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, [enter item number](#) be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 August 2023 are attached.

Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 31 August 2023

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 August 2023 **[as amended/without amendment]** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 31 August 2023

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Brian Carter
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Jarrod Calkin
Cr Fi Dalgety

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy and Planning
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community Services
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services
Mrs Adina Foley, Group Manager- Capital Projects
Mrs Kym Skerman, Manager- Events and Venues
Ms Joanne Manuel, Manager- Community Wellbeing
Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner
Mr Graeme Pointon, Strategic Property Advisor
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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14	Open Meeting	8

1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 1.01pm.

2 Apologies

No apologies were received.

3 Public Forum

Mr Brian Megaw spoke in relation to the Gorges to See cycle trail and the benefit this would have on the district. Mr Megaw is looking for support from Council on this idea and financial contribution to a feasibility study, which would be approximately \$20,000 for the study.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Calkin declared a conflict of interest in relation to the draft submission on the Cellar Door Tasting Amendment Bill (Item 9) due to his work with liquor outlets.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

No changes were noted.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/262

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 July 2023 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

This item was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/263

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr D Wilson. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayors Report - 31 August 2023

Cr Wilson thanked Council for the opportunity to go to the LGNZ conference.

Councillors commended Mrs Foley on the successful opening of the Nga Awa block in Taihape.

His Worship the Mayor spoke about the roadshow bus and its success, which spent a day in the district.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/264

That the Mayors Report – 31 August 2023 be received.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/265

That Council considers the request from Marton RSA for a tree to be planted at Marton Park to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III. This is an unbudgeted expense.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - August 2023

Staff Movements

Mr Ross responded to questions about the risk of losing a building compliance officer and acknowledging that all councils are feeling concerned about this. Council is receiving some support in this area.

External Submissions

His Worship the Mayor congratulated Cr Wong on the work he has completed on the Connect the Dots submission.

Cr Calkin declared a conflict of interest in regard to the draft submission on the Cellar Door Tasting Amendment Bill due to his work with liquor outlets.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/266

That the Chief Executive's Report – August 2023 be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/267

That Council approve the draft submission on the Cellar Door Tasting Amendment Bill without changes.

Cr R Lambert/Cr S Loudon. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Notice of Motion - Petition Calling for Citizens Initiated Referenda on State Highway Maintenance

His Worship the Mayor acknowledged the work from Mayor Neil Holdom from New Plymouth District Council on this issue.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/268

That the Notice of Motion from Mayor Andy Watson be accepted.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/269

That Council approves that the CE be authorised to make the petition available at Council information centres and appropriate facilities.

HWTM/Cr G Duncan. Carried

10.2 Review of Electoral System for 2025 and 2028 Elections

Mrs Gordon advised there had been a workshop discussion on the two voting options, provided by Mr Warwick Lampp. Councillors noted there were benefits in aligning with Horizons Regional Council in particular, to avoid confusion from residents if the two systems were different.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/270

That Council receives the Review of Electoral System for 2025 and 2028 Elections report.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/271

- a. Council approves the electoral system for the following two election cycles remaining as First Past the Post (FPP);

Cr P Hiroa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried
Against: Cr Raukawa/Cr Loudon/Cr Lambert/Cr Calkin

10.3 Better Off Funding - Housing Business Case

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/272

That the report 'Better Off Funding – Housing Business Case' be received.

Cr B Carter/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/273

That Council does request that the scope of the Better Off funded Housing Business Case be amended, to consider suitability for all Rangitikei District Council-owned property in Taihape for housing, and to identify that which is surplus to requirements and could be sold to contribute funding towards any Council housing project in Taihape.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Gorges To See Cycle Trail Concept

Council noted this could be financially significant and this would likely align with the Long-Term Plan.

The motion is open ended for staff to investigate and scope the amount of staff time involved.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/274

That the report 'Gorges to See Cycle Trail Concept' is received.

Cr G Maughan/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/275

That Council staff engage with Brian Megaw and Mark Grace to investigate costings and next steps with regard to the Gorges to See Cycle Trail concept.

Cr J Calkin/Cr G Maughan. Carried

11.2 Project Management Office Report - August 2023

Taihape Town Hall

Mrs Foley advised there will be a public workshop in October. The outcome from the workshop will be to provide a clearly defined scope and build on the priorities and needs. All elected members will be invited and it will be run by an external facilitator.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/276

That the report 'Project Management Office Report - August 2023' be received.

Cr R Lambert/Cr B Carter. Carried

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

Huntermville Rural Water Scheme- Minutes

It was clarified that the Huntermville Rural Water Scheme was discussing options of where the water is supplied in an event.

Ratana Community Board- Minutes

Ms Foley answered questions on the Ratana Community Board minutes and Lake Waipu. This is being overseen by Horizons and that the access points are through private property.

Resolved minute number 23/RDC/277

That the following minutes are received:

- Finance and Performance- 29 Jun 23
- McIntyre Reserve Management Committee-17 Jul 23
- Huntermville Rural Water Scheme- 17 Jul 23
- Huntermville Community Committee- 07 Aug 23
- Ratana Community Board- 08 Aug 23
- Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa- 08 Aug 23
- Taihape Community Board-09 Aug 23
- Turakina Community Committee- 10 Aug 23
- Youth Council-21 Aug 23

Cr R Lambert/Cr G Duncan. Carried

13 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session 2.33pm

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number **23/RDC/278**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1. Public Excluded Council Meeting - 25 July 2023
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Taihape Area School - location for decant during rebuild
4. Mayors Task Force for Jobs - Contract Re-evaluation
5. Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades - Contract for system upgrade
6. Rātana Pā Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget increase and direct procurement

The general subject matter 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 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
13.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 25 July 2023	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 29 June meeting.	S48(1)(a)
13.2 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.3 - Taihape Area School - location for decant during rebuild	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(c)(ii) - Public Interest	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.4 - Mayors Task Force for Jobs - Contract Re-evaluation	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.5 - Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrades - Contract for system upgrade	s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)

13.6 - Rātana Pā Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget increase and direct procurement	s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
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This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

Cr B Carter/Cr D Wilson. Carried

14 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 4.14pm

Resolved minute number **23/RDC/292**

That the public excluded meeting move into an open meeting, and the below recommendations be confirmed in the open meeting:

22/RDC/280 - 22/RDC/291

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

The meeting closed at 4.14pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 September 2023.

.....

Chairperson

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Council meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for each follow up, and a brief status comment.

2. Decision Making Process

2.1 Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Attachments:

1. **Follow-up Actions Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings' be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	31-Aug-23	Make the state highway petition available at Council information centres and appropriate facilities	Carol / Rhonda	Petition has been drafted and distributed as requested.	Completed
2	31-Aug-23	Investigate planting a tree at Marton Park - as per the request from Marton RSA to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles III (agreed at the council meeting)	Karen / Murray	Murray/Karen are investigating the cost of a tree and plaque to be part of the Armistice Day commemorations at Marton Park on 11 November 2023.	In progress
3	31-Aug-23	Investigate next steps with the Gorges to See cycle trail concept	Gaylene / Kim	Quotes were sought from two companies, both of whom have completed feasibility studies for cycle trails such as this in the past. Roam Consulting offered the most comprehensive research for the best value at \$21,278. The next step is to apply for funding to cover the costs of the feasibility study.	In progress
4	31-Aug-23	Marton Water strategy - test results to understand what the water quality - for A&I workshop in September - if appropriate	Adina / Arno	Results received and will be shared at the October A&I meeting	In progress
5	25-Jul-23	Council approves that a final submission is made to the Ministry for the Environment to recover \$200,000 of Waste Levy fees (re Putorino Landfill)	Mark Barnes	Submission will be sent by the end of September 2023	In progress
6	29-Jun-23	Look at a template to cover Council funded assets and whether ongoing maintenance etc should be identified as part of any agreement	Graeme P / Arno	No progress to report.	In progress
7	29-Jun-23	Beaven Street, Marton – Surplus Land, the Chief Executive is authorised to take all requisite action and sign all documents to legalise the transfer of the surplus land to the landowners of the adjoining property	Graeme P	Awaiting response from Purchasers' lawyer. Update received 18/09 Draft agreement now reviewed by Purchasers. Settlement expected late October.	In progress No Further Action required of RDC until documents arrive from Purchasers' Lawyer.
8	29-Jun-23	Makuhou Road / Turakina Valley Road Intersection – Legalisation Action, the Chief Executive is authorised to take all requisite action and sign all documents to legalise the section of road outlined in Bold Black on the submitted aerial overlay (subject to survey); and That all costs of legalisation and issue of new Title for the currently encroached adjoining land be met by Council	Graeme P	Awaiting further advice from adjoining owners. Met with adjoining owners 24/08. They are seeking independent advice.	In progress. No Further Action for RDC at present. No Further Action for RDC at present
9	29-Jun-23	Bulls Bowling Club Lease – Proposal for Land Exchange, the Chief Executive is directed and authorised to conclude negotiations to correct the Bulls Bowling Club building encroachment at Criterion Street Bulls; and That the Chief Executive is further authorised to take all actions and execute all documents required to complete the proposed exchange of land involved	Graeme P	Two other parties involved are progressing their negotiations. RDC cannot proceed until other parties have agreement between themselves.	In progress. No further action for RDC
10	29-Jun-23	Bulls Rugby Club Lease – Proposed Building Extensions, the Chief Executive is authorised to take all actions and execute all documents required to complete the leasing of extra land required Stage 1 and Stage 2	Graeme P	No further action for RDC as Reserve Manager at this stage. No action required of RDC until lease proceeds.	In progress
11	29-Jun-23	Council endorses and supports the Santoft Domain Incorporated proposal to develop a building on the Reserve; and That Council supports the Society's funding application to J B S Dudding Trust; and directs and authorises the Chief Executive to negotiate and sign a lease to Santoft Domain Incorporated as authorised and prescribed in the Reserves Act 1977, to give effect to Resolution 23/RDC/.....; and confirms that any requests for funding or fee waivers be considered independently of these recommendations	Graeme P	Committee advised of Council decision. Lease part-drafted for discussion with Committee when siting and plans of proposed building known. No action required of RDC until lease proceeds.	In progress
12	1-Jun-23	Supply more info re Council's High Street buildings - to include NBS timeframes, safety, maintenance etc	Adina Foley	As part of the development of the LTP more information will be provided to Council on the High Street buildings. Further information will be provided to a workshop in September / October. A Working Group has been established to progress this.	In progress
13	24-May-23	Otara bridge - ensure attendees at the meeting are being kept informed and weekly updates are on our website	Rhonda Morris / Carol Gordon	Manawatu District Council are liaising with attendees. Weekly updates on progress are made to our Council's website.	In progress
14	24-May-23	Progress putting the macron above the I in Rangitikei	Leah / Bonnie	The next stage in this process is underway (iwi consultation).	In progress
15	24-May-23	Check if there is a phone number for Council on signage at the effluent site	Arno	Signage was installed on 1 September.	Completed
16	26-Apr-23	Re rental on Bulls museum - what other properties are rented and what is the rental amounts	Gaylene/ Graeme P	There are other Council properties that have a minimal lease rental. Staff are still to review the documentation to consider similarities to the lease for the former Bulls Library.	In progress
17	26-Apr-23	Taihape swim centre - extending hours - consider as part of LTP 2034-44 (along with Marton swim centre)	Gaylene / Arno	This work will continue through the creation of the next LTP	In progress

18	25-Aug-22	As per resolution 22/RDC/305 : That, should "better off" funding be received for the Hautapu River Parks Project, Council enters into a formal agreement with the Friends of Taihape for them to conduct ongoing maintenance of the bridges.	Adina Foley	No further progress has been made. An official letter of record has been prepared and shared with the new CEO and the community group summarising all details incl resolutions of this project.	In progress
19	30-Jun-22	Adoption of the Procurement Policy; this was left to lie at Council's 30 June 2022 meeting, in order to allow the PMO to review the policy and make changes. Once these changes are complete, the policy will go back to the Audit and Risk Committee for review/feedback, before being presented to full Council for adoption. Carbon reduction to be included in this review, and potentially the Policy.	Dave Tombs/Adina Foley	Draft currently being reviewed for presentation to ELT, the complete set will include the strategy, policy and a guide, estimated to be completed by October 2023.	In progress
20	26-May-22	As per resolution 22/RDC/165 : That due to safety concerns around vehicles other than buses using the Bulls Bus Lane, Council staff be asked to investigate possible options around discouragement and enforcement practices.	Adina Foley / Gaylene Prince / Johan Cullis	Staff are presently investigating software compatibility with our suppliers. The bylaw that will allow enforcement action has been endorsed by Council. A Council resolution will be required for Council to put signage up.	In progress
21	31-Mar-22	Staff to provide a report to a future Council meeting on the Putorino Water Supply Scheme.	Arno Benadie	One of the scheme members confirmed that they purchased 800 m of suitable pipe, stored on one of the farms. The renewal work started. RDC will assist where required.	In progress
22	28-Oct-21	With regards to the recommendation from the Bulls Community Committee for rubbish bin/s at the picnic area at the Bulls river: A recommendation by Council to approve this request was lost, and Cr Gordon instead requested that staff contact Horizons Regional Council and request that they investigate this further as this area of land lies under their responsibility. From 3 Nov meeting - Cr Carter raised the issue of fly tipping - CE undertook to speak to him more about this.	Arno Benadie / Raj Khadka	A revised Memorandum Of Understanding has been submitted by Horizons for review. RDC is considering the suitability of the proposed MOU before agreeing to a new term for this activity. No further updates available at this time.	In progress

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - September 2023

Author: Mayor Andy Watson

It seems like Local Government is in a holding pattern ahead of the general elections. With Government having made many legislative changes in the last few weeks such as enacting the 10 Water Entities and the RMA (Resource Management Act) we as a Local Government sector are struggling to understand the effects that these changes bring and in the "blue corner" National has promised a repeal of most of those new laws. I feel for staff trying to understand and resource what is a very undecided future.

The way that Local Government operates also needs reform and for the last couple of years there has been a huge effort from working parties to look at the future of Local Government, how it is funded and what its role is in New Zealand. This work needed to be done. Local Government is being asked to do more and more over time. No longer is our work just about core services such as roading, rates and rubbish. We are responsible for the guardianship of our environment, coping with climate change and are involved with all sorts of social issues such as housing, health, economic development, and all of the "wellbeings" of our residents.

On 17 September myself and Councillor Fi Dalgety, along with most Mayors and many Councillors attended a meeting in Wellington to discuss the 17 recommendations on the Future For Local Government. Details of those recommendations can be found here – <https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/council/publications/the-future-for-local-government-report>

I have also attached an analysis that explains the FFLG Panel's recommendations, summarises their pros and cons and poses some questions for consideration. This looks at how likely Local Government and Central Government support is for each recommendation and is based on member feedback over the past two years together with analysis of councils' submissions.

Many of these recommendations have merit but the difficulty is for Local Government to adopt them, they have to be funded. One of the recommendations suggest that funding could be delivered by a percentage of the GST gathered, to be returned to the district. My concern is that both Government and the opposition have been aware of and involved in the discussions around these recommendations for some time and neither party has been willing to support them as part of their election manifesto. So it is quite possible that there may be no change at all.

Along with Alan Buckendahl, President of Marton RSA, I attended a memorial service in Australia recently for Danniell Lyon or "Diesel" as he was known. Danniell died piloting a helicopter in Australia flying for the Australian Defence Force in July. The local connection is that for some time he was posted to Ohakea on secondment flying for No.3 Squadron here. Danniell joined our RSA, became involved in our district, attended our events and fully involved himself within our patch. New Zealand Defence offered Alan and I the chance to fly to Australia along with members of the No.3 Squadron to represent New Zealand at the memorial service via a C130 (Hercules) flight. I would like to thank both the Australian and New Zealand Defence Forces for making that happen.

Unfortunately, while I was involved with the Australian memorial service on the 13th and 14th of September I was unable to attend a series of events back home. I am yet to catch up on the RRCC (Rangitikei River Catchment Collective) AGM that was held while I was away. It is a pity I wasn't there, but I was represented by Councillor Dalgety and I will ask her to comment as part of my Mayor's Report. The RRCC does some amazing work that they fund themselves on improvements

ITEM 8.1

to our waterways and they deserve recognition. I also missed the Opening of the Military Working Dogs Facility at Ohakea which I understand is quite a significant step forward in the range of facilities offered by Ohakea. The last thing I missed was being part of Council's workshop on the Roding Procurement Contract options for Rangitikei District Council. I have spoken about this before but this is essentially a process where we decide who will maintain our district's roads over the next up to 9 years. At the time of writing this I am looking forward to a briefing by the Chair of Assets Dave Wilson and Senior Staff ahead of today's Council meeting. This is an issue that will be further discussed in Public Excluded as part of this Council meeting.

I did however get back in time on the 14th to attend an inaugural meeting of the Business Rangitikei Official Launch in Marton in the Opal Lounge at Cooks Bar. For some time the businesses in the Rangitikei have felt as though they haven't had a combined representation to Council. The turnout of local businesses to this event was phenomenal and I am looking forward to Council having the opportunity to work with that group. In some ways with the demise of Project Marton there has been no local voice in Marton and this is a significant step forward.

On the weekend I attended a cleanup in Bulls as part of the national weekend sponsored by Smart Environmental. I thank the members of the community who turned up to support this in Bulls. It gave me the opportunity, along with others, to pick up a huge amount of rubbish for example around the Bulls Bridge and correct what has been an eyesore for people visiting our community for some time. I have attached a photograph of the rubbish I collected on my own trailer.

Recently we had a resignation from Kelly Widdowson who led the formation and operation of the Youth Council for the Rangitikei. I appreciate the work that Kelly has done with youth from right across our district and the work that she has done with Forge Boxing in Marton and wish her well.

Recently Nga Wairiki Ngati Apa received a very large delegation from the followers of the Ratana faith that served as an introduction to the new Tumuaki of Ratana, Sonny Tumou. This took place at the Marton Memorial Hall and was a very significant occasion for both Ratana and our Iwi and I was pleased to be able to represent Council and sit alongside Iwi and support them.

During September I also attended the opening of the new interactive 3D squash court in Taihape. Tyson Burrows and Darryl O'Hara have been instrumental in securing funding for what is one of only three interactive squash courts in New Zealand. The court will provide squash and racquet-ball training for A-Graders as well as a virtual arcade for interactive junior level fun. I have included a photograph of the cutting of the ribbon by Chris Renshaw our local representative on the Four Regions Trust who provided funding towards the court.

Mayors Engagement

September 2023

1	Attended Tour of Marton/Bulls with Interim Chief Executive
3	Attended Church Service at Ratana
4	Attended weekly LTP meeting with staff Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended Climate Action Joint Committee Meeting Attended Mayoral Forum
5	Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor Attended Marton Development Group AGM
6	Attended monthly ELT meeting for Governors Q&A Attended Funeral for Erina True Attended Bulls Museum progress update meeting
7	Attended Working Group Meeting – Review of Revenue & Financing Policy Attended LTP workshop
8	Attended Mangaweka School Environ Awards Attended Bio Forestry meeting in Wellington
10	Attended Taihape Squash Club Grand Opening of Interactive Court
11	Attended CE Recruitment meeting with Jackson Stone Attended weekly LTP meeting
12	Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
13	Attended Memorial service for Capt Danniel ‘Diesel’ Lyon in Nowra Australia
14	Attended Business Rangitikei Official Launch
15	Attended Accelerate25 Lead Team meeting
17	Attended Te Matoro o te Tumuaki Tuawaru o te Haahi Ratana Attended Choose Localism – a Future by Local Government LGNZ Hui
18	Attended Choose Localism – a Future by Local Government LGNZ Hui
19	Attended Regional Transport Matters Fortnightly Zoom Attended weekly meeting with Interim Chief Executive Attended Three Waters Reform Provisions - Rural Water Schemes Meeting with DIA Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
20	Attended breakfast meeting with Mayor Helen Worboys Attended weekly LTP meeting

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	Attended meeting with Ministry of Education and Taihape Area School
21	Attended Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting Attended Assets & Infrastructure Workshop
22	Attended fortnightly discussion on Economic Development with staff Attended Chief of Air Force Change of Command Ceremony at Ohakea Attended Ceremonial Start of Daybreaker Rally in Feilding
23	Attended Spring Fling in Taihape
25	Attended Marton Christian Welfare Council AGM Attended weekly meeting with Interim Deputy Chief Executive
26	Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
28	Attended Finance/Performance Committee Meeting Attended Council Meeting Attended Manawatu-Whanganui Disaster Relief Fund Trust AGM
22	Attended fortnightly discussion on Economic Development with staff

Attachments:

1. **Interactive 3D Squash Court - Taihape** [↓](#)
2. **Bulls Clean Up Day - Rubbish Collected** [↓](#)
3. **Elected Member Attendance** [↓](#)
4. **FFLG Recommendations** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Mayor's Report – September 2023 be received.



ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2



Elected Members

Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Calkin	Carter	Daigety	Duncan	Hiroa	Lambert	Loudon	Maughan	Raukawa	Wong	Notes
25-Oct-22	Council (Inaugural)	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
03-Nov-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
14-Nov-22	Creative NZ Committee	PR					PR							
16-Nov-22	Audit and Risk	PR	PR	AT		PR		PR		AT	AT			
21-Nov-22	HRWS	PR							PR		AT			
23-Nov-22	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP		PR	PR		PR	There was confusion re membership of the committee
23-Nov-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	HWTM was late due to Council business
29-Nov-22	ERWS	AP									PR		AT	Meeting not held due to lack of quorum
29-Nov-22	Bulls													
30-Nov-22	Santoft DMC	PR		PR	PR									
01-Dec-22	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
12-Dec-22	Hunterville CC	PR				PR			PR					
13-Dec-22	TRAK	PR					PR							
14-Dec-22	Taihape CB	PR					PR						PR	
14-Dec-22	Marton CC													Meeting not held due to lack of quorum
15-Dec-22	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AT			PR	PR		PR	
15-Dec-22	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
20-Dec-22	Ratana CB	PR	AT		AT									
26-Jan-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
01-Feb-23	Santoft DMC	PR		AT	PR									
08-Feb-23	Taihape CB	PR					PR	AT					PR	
08-Feb-23	Marton CC	CB	AB								AB			
09-Feb-23	Workshop	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
09-Feb-23	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
13-Feb-23	Hunterville CC	CB				PR			PR					
14-Feb-23	Ratana CB	PR						PR						
16-Feb-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
22-Feb-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR				PR	PR		PR	
22-Feb-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
1 Mar 23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	
07 Mar 23	ERWS	PR									PR		PR	
09 Mar 23	A&I Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
09 Mar 23	P&P	PR	PR				PR	PR	PR		AP			
13 Mar 23	HRWS	CB				PR			PR					
14 Mar 23	BCC	PR		PR	PR									
15 Mar 23	R&A	PR	PR	AT		PR		AP		PR				
15 Mar 23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	
20 Mar 23	Youth	PR					PR						PR	
30-Mar-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR				AP	PR		PR	
30-Mar-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	

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4-Apr-23	Ratana CB	CB						PR					
6-Apr-23	Turakina CC	PR				PR							
11-Apr-23	TRAK	PR						PR	PR				
11-Apr-23	Maori Rates Remission	PR					PR		PR				PR
11-Apr-23	Omatane RWS							PR					
12-Apr-23	Taihape CB	PR						PR					PR
12-Apr-23	Marlon CC	CB	PR					AT				PR	
13-Apr-23	Assets/Infrastructure	PR	PR			PR	PR			PR	PR		PR
17-Apr-23	Youth							PR					PR
17-Apr-23	Huntermville CC	CB	AT					AP			PR		
20-Apr-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
26-Apr-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
27-Apr-23	Sport NZ RTF	CB	AT	PR	AT						PR		
27-Apr-23	Finance/Performance	CB	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP			PR	PR	PR
10-May-23	Bulls CC	AP				PR							
11-May-23	Annual Plan Hearings	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
11-May-23	Annual Plan Hearings	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
15-May-23	HRWS	PR					PR			PR			
15-May-23	Youth	PR					PR	AP					PR
18-May-02	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR
24-May-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR				PR	PR	PR
24-May-23	Council	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
1-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR
6-Jun-23	ERWS	PR									PR		PR
6-Jun-23	ORWS	PR						PR					
7-Jun-23	Creative NZ Committee	CB						PR					
8-Jun-23	Turakina CC	PR				PR							
12-Jun-23	Huntermville CC	PR								PR			
13-Jun-23	Ratana CB	PR							AP				
14-Jun-23	Taihape CB	CB						PR	AT				AP
14-Jun-23	Marlon CC	PR	PR								PR		
15-Jun-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AB	PR
15-Jun-23	Policy / Planning	PR	PR				AT	PR	PR	PR			
19-Jun-23	Youth Council	PR						PR					PR
20-Jun-23	TRAK	PR						PR	PR				
22-Jun-23	R&A	PR	PR	AT		PR			PR		PR		
22-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
29-Jun-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR					PR	PR	PR
29-Jun-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-Jul-23	McIntyre Reserve	PR											PR
12-Jul-23	AIN Meeting	PR	PR			AP	PR	PR			PR	AP	PR
12-Jul-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
12-Jul-23	Bulls CC	PR				PR							AT
13-Jul-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
17-Jul-23	HRWS	PR					PR			PR			
19-Jul-23	SDMC												
25-Jul-23	Council	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR

Minutes not received

3-Aug-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AB	PR
7-Aug-23	HCC	PR				PR			PR					
8-Aug-23	TRAK	PR					PR							
8-Aug-23	Ratana CB	PR						PR						
9-Aug-23	Taihape CB	PR					PR							PR
9-Aug-23	Marton CC	CB	PR									PR		
10-Aug-23	AIN Workshop													
10-Aug-23	P&P	PR	PR				AT	PR	PR	PR	AT	PR		
10-Aug-23	Turakina CC	PR			PR									
21-Aug-23	Youth Council	PR					PR							PR
24-Aug-23	Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR(PM only)	AP	PR
31-Aug-23	Finance/Performance	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR				PR	PR			PR
31-Aug-23	Council	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
7-Sep-23	Workshop	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR-AM only	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
13-Sep-23	Bulls CC													
14-Sep-23	Workshop	CB	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR
21-Sep-23	RA Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR		AB		PR	PR	AT		
21-Sep-23	AIN Workshop	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR		AP	PR	PR			PR

Attendance not taken

Minutes not received

Present (and is a member of the committee)	PR
Apology	AP
Absent - no apology received	AB
Not a member of the committee	
Not a member of the committee (but still attended)	AT
Not present as on Council business	CB
Attended via Zoom [this indicator is no longer used]	ZM



HOW DO THE FFLG REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS STACK UP?

In June 2023, the Future for Local Government Panel released its final report.

LGNZ’s 2023 AGM agreed that local government should develop a consensus position or positions on the Panel’s recommendations to put in front of the incoming government. Together we’re aiming to produce a powerful advocacy position that local government can unite behind, covering all aspects of the report but not necessarily agreeing with every recommendation. For example, there may be aspects of the report that collectively we think need to change, and there may be things not addressed in the report that we think we need to be part of a package of change. While we understand the ambition of this task given the range of views in local government, there will be value in challenging ourselves – and being clear about where we think differently from each other, and why.

To help generate that consensus position, we’ve analysed the Panel’s recommendations from a local government point of view. This document sets out the pros and cons of each recommendation, as well as posing some questions for you to consider. The table below also looks at the probable level of support each recommendation has from both local and central government. These are based on all the engagement we’ve done on FFLG over the past two years including multiple workshops, submissions and analysis of councils’ submissions. We’ve suggested some potential broad-brush categorisations:

- ✓ = Likely to be broad/strong levels of support
- ✗ = Unlikely to be broad/strong levels of support
- ? = Uncertain – and may depend on the makeup of the incoming government

Recommendation	What does this recommendation mean?	Pros and cons	Potential LG support	Potential CG support	Questions to ponder
#1 Entrench the purpose of local government, as set out in the Local Government Act 2002, to embed intergenerational wellbeing and local democracy at the heart of local government.	<p>The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) sets out the purpose of local government: “to enable democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities and to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities.”</p> <p>However, it’s possible for Parliament to change the purpose of local government with a simple majority. In 2013, a National-led Government changed the purpose of local government: “to meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses.”</p> <p>Many councils continued to focus on promoting the social, economic, cultural and environmental wellbeing of their communities by relying on local government having the power of general competence, which says that councils can choose what activities to undertake and how to undertake them.</p> <p>Then in 2019, a Labour-led Government changed the purpose back to enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities and to promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities. The focus on promoting wellbeing sits alongside and guides councils’ obligations to provide infrastructure to their communities.</p> <p>Entrenching the purpose of the LGA means that any change to the purpose would need the support of a 75% super majority of Parliament.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ We’ve heard support from councils for local government’s ‘wellbeing purpose’. ↑ Entrenching local government’s purpose would give local government constitutional recognition and formalise local government’s role and purpose. It would help to recognise local government as an autonomous arm of government. ↑ It would also give local government a stronger mandate. ↑ It would avoid potential for repeated changes to local government’s purpose, at the whim of politics. Repeated changes make it difficult for councils to operate to their full effect. ↑ The current purpose is enabling and supports close connection with communities – changes to the purpose might narrow the scope of local government to focus more on central government priorities. ↓ Society, circumstances, and priorities can change. Entrenchment would make it more difficult for the purpose of local government to evolve to meet changing circumstances and priorities. 	✓	✗	<p>Is the current purpose of local government sufficiently broad that it would still be relevant even if there was a change in circumstances and/or priorities?</p> <p>Are there any other provisions in the LGA that you think should be entrenched?</p> <p>Should the LGA itself be entrenched – so that any decision to substantially amend or repeal and replace the LGA requires the support of a super majority?</p>



<p>#2 Introduce statutory provisions to reinforce and give effect to the purpose of local government in the Local Government Act 2002, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ councils setting wellbeing goals and priorities each term, in conjunction with community and hapū/iwi and Māori 	<p>It also means implementing this recommendation would require 75% of Parliament to support.</p> <p>At the moment, there's no explicit requirement for councils to set wellbeing goals and priorities each term with their community and iwi/hapū/Māori. This means councils' approaches vary.</p> <p>But we know that a large number of councils are actively engaging with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori to set wellbeing goals and priorities, including through long-term plans. Long-term plans set out the outcomes that the council wants to achieve for its community. These outcomes help to inform the decisions that councils make about investing in infrastructure.</p> <p>The Panel's view is that requiring councils to work with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori to develop wellbeing goals and priorities would help to ensure that councils fulfil their purpose. It would also help councils to ensure that the services they provide are designed to meet the wellbeing needs and priorities of their communities.</p>	<p>↑ Would help guide and prioritise decision-making by councils about the services that they're providing to their communities. ✓</p> <p>↑ Is a way of more actively engaging communities and iwi/hapū/Māori in local government decision-making. ?</p> <p>↓ Setting wellbeing goals and priorities with communities and iwi/hapū/Māori is potentially a costly and time-consuming process.</p> <p>↓ Wellbeing goals and priorities have the potential to change regularly depending on external circumstances, including political preferences.</p>	<p>Is a specific statutory requirement to set wellbeing goals and priorities a good idea, or is more flexibility preferable?</p> <p>How would these wellbeing goals and priorities relate to or be different from the community outcomes included in councils' LTPs?</p>
<p>#2 Introduce statutory provisions to reinforce and give effect to the purpose of local government in the Local Government Act 2002, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ central and local government committing to align wellbeing priorities and agree place-based investment plans. 	<p>Investing in meeting communities' wellbeing needs and priorities is important to local government – we heard that from you in our engagement on the FFLG. But we've also heard that councils often find that central government's investments are not geared towards the needs and priorities that communities have.</p> <p>This recommendation presents an opportunity to think more broadly about the future of the public service in New Zealand and how central and local government can best work together to deliver good outcomes for communities.</p> <p>There's currently no consistent or mandated approach for how central and local government should work together to align wellbeing priorities and agree place-based investment plans that meet those priorities. This means that there's often a lack of alignment between central and local government's priorities and investments.</p> <p>Some councils are working closely with central government agencies to align priorities and invest in communities, for example there are Urban Growth Partnerships between central government agencies, councils and mana whenua in Greater Christchurch, the Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Queenstown.</p> <p>The Resource Management Reforms will introduce mandatory regional spatial planning, and require the councils in a region, along with mana</p>	<p>↑ Would ensure that investment by central government actually meets the needs and priorities of local communities – and avoid duplication. ✓</p> <p>↑ Central government can draw on local government's knowledge: given their proximity to communities, councils are best-placed to work with communities to identify their priorities and needs. ?</p> <p>↑ Would potentially strengthen the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>↑ Provides local government with a way to be involved in central government planning and decision-making – rather than just being a delivery arm.</p> <p>↓ May make planning decisions more time consuming and difficult.</p> <p>↓ Likely to be challenges getting alignment between central government agencies – local government would need central government to come to the table with a 'joined up' view of things.</p> <p>↓ Potential for regional approaches to overlook unique local circumstances and needs.</p>	<p>Would you see setting of wellbeing priorities and development of place-based investment plans happening at a regional scale, or with individual councils? Could the recommendation align with regional spatial planning?</p> <p>What should happen if councils' community wellbeing priorities differ from central government's?</p> <p>Would you prefer an approach where central government is required to agree to support and fund the wellbeing priorities worked out by councils with their communities and iwi/hapū/Māori?</p>



	<p>whenua and central government representatives, to set out how regions will grow, adapt and change over time and how land, infrastructure and other resources will be used to promote the wellbeing of people, the environment and economy. Spatial planning will be supported with implementation plans and agreements to support the delivery of agreed actions.</p> <p>Although regional spatial planning will look at things from a regional, rather than local, perspective, there could be opportunities to think about how the Panel’s recommendation for place-based priorities and investment plans could align with the shift to regional spatial planning. Alternatively, central government could agree to supporting and funding local government to deliver the wellbeing priorities it has agreed with its communities and iwi/hapū/Māori.</p>	
<p>#3 Introduce new provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that explicitly recognise local government as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and te ao Māori values to strengthen authentic relationships in the local exercise of kāwanatanga and rangatiratanga.</p>	<p>The LGA does not explicitly recognise local government as a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Instead, section 4 talks about the need for local government to fulfil certain requirements around Māori participation in decision-making in order to recognise and respect the Crown’s responsibility to take appropriate account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p> <p>This recommendation talks about explicitly identifying local government as a Te Tiriti partner. It relates to recommendation 4, which talks about partnership frameworks and giving effect to the principles of Te Tiriti (an obligation that sits with the Crown as a Treaty partner). However, while this recommendation suggests that local government should be named as a Treaty partner, most the Panel’s report talks about Te Tiriti-based partnership and growing partnerships between local government and iwi/hapū/Māori. Arguably those are two different things so there is a need for some clarity.</p> <p>This recommendation also talks about te ao Māori values being woven into the system of local government.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises and builds on the fact that many councils already see themselves as a Te Tiriti partner and are working in partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori. ? ?</p> <p>↑ Also recognises and builds on the work councils are doing to build te ao Māori values into their ways of working.</p> <p>↑ Would support iwi and hapū to exercise kāwanatanga and rangatiratanga.</p> <p>↑ Would help to achieve consistency with other legislation that relates to local government, such as the Water Services Entities Act and Natural and Built Environments Act.</p> <p>↑ Creates an opportunity for councils to do things in new ways.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity as to what being a Te Tiriti partner means in practice for councils.</p> <p>↓ May significantly raise expectations that councils don’t currently have the capacity or capability to meet.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity as to the difference between partnership and relationship.</p>
<p>#4 Introduce a statutory requirement for councils to develop partnership frameworks with hapū/iwi and Māori to give effect to</p>	<p>The LGA requires councils to maintain and improve opportunities for Māori to contribute to decision-making processes. It also requires councils to consider ways they may foster the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (Section 4, referring</p>	<p>↑ Councils given more certainty and clarity around the need for partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori. ? ?</p> <p>↑ Reflects work local government is already doing to</p> <p>What does “partnership” mean, and how is it different from “relationship”?</p>



<p>new Te Tiriti provisions in the Local Government Act 2002 that create new governance arrangements and complement existing ones.</p>	<p>to provisions in Parts 2 and 6 of the LGA). Section 4 describes these requirements as existing in order to recognise and respect the Crown’s responsibility to take account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.</p> <p>Currently there is no explicit requirement for councils to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti; or • Develop partnership frameworks with iwi/hapū/Māori. <p>Many councils already partner with or have relationships with iwi/hapū/Māori. However, approaches across the country are ad hoc and variable. Some approaches are formal, others more informal. This is partly because they need to reflect the unique circumstances of councils and iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>The Panel says partnership should mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared decision-making between hapū/iwi and councils in areas of shared priority that relate to Māori rights and interests. • Growing hapū/iwi capacity. • Creating the right conditions and spaces for councils and iwi and hapū to collaborate, tell stories of the places they are connected to and passionate about, and build a shared understanding of local whakapapa. • Māori citizens expressing their culturally specific preferences for services, representation, and participation. • Creating a greater level of transparency and accountability for both partners. <p>The Panel says partnership frameworks and the process for developing them could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlining the working relationship between councils and hapū/iwi and Māori. • Providing a mechanism to voice individual priorities and agree on joint priorities. This could include opportunities for iwi, hapū, or Māori organisations to deliver services relating to their values or priorities. • Confirming ways of working together to streamline council engagement practices, complement and strengthen existing and evolving arrangements (such as Treaty settlements), and collectively deliver greater outcomes to and for the community. • Confirming appropriate governance arrangements, including but not limited to hapū and iwi representation on the council. <p>Water services and resource management reforms create new opportunities for partnership between local government and iwi/hapū/Māori. Mana whenua representatives sit on the regional</p>	<p>partner with iwi/hapū/Māori. Putting in partnership frameworks might not be new for many councils but would enhance existing work and relationships.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity for better alignment with water services and resource management reform.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to increase diversity of people involved in local government decision-making – to better reflect the diversity of communities.</p> <p>↑ Introducing a requirement for councils to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti would be consistent with water services and resource management legislation.</p> <p>↓ Need the requirement to develop partnership frameworks with iwi/hapū/Māori to reflect the need for a range of approaches to partnership – one size fits all won’t work.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around what partnership with iwi/hapū/Māori looks like and how partnership differs to a relationship – needs further work.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around what local government giving effect to the principles of Te Tiriti means – needs further work.</p> <p>↓ Councils need additional resourcing to support them to develop capability and capacity to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>↑ Capacity challenges for iwi/hapū/Māori may make it difficult for them to partner with local government – additional resourcing likely to be needed.</p>	<p>What are the things that concern you about partnering with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>What resourcing or support would your council need to grow its capacity and capability to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>What elements do you think a partnership framework should capture?</p>
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	<p>representation groups established for the water services entities (50/50 local government and mana whenua representation). There will be a requirement for a minimum of two mana whenua representatives to sit on each of the regional planning committees. There's an opportunity to think about how these partnership arrangements are consistent with (and enable or undermine) existing partnership arrangements that councils have with iwi/hapū/Māori.</p> <p>The Water Services Entities Act and the Natural and Built Environments Act place a requirement on all persons performing duties, functions or powers under those Acts to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This recommendation presents an opportunity to align the LGA with those requirements.</p>
<p>#5 Central government leads a comprehensive review of requirements for engaging with Māori across legislation that impacts local government, considering opportunities to streamline or align those requirements.</p>	<p>Local government is a creature of statute, with legislation setting out councils' obligations. Different pieces of legislation set out different obligations for engaging with iwi, hapū and Māori.</p> <p>This recommendation identifies an opportunity to align all obligations on councils and achieve more consistency. It presents an opportunity to make sure engagement works for both local government and for iwi/hapū/Māori, who are overburdened by multiple requests from central and local government agencies.</p> <p>The Panel sees reviewing existing engagement requirements as an opportunity for Māori to contribute to decision-making in ways that are more consistent with the notion of partnership.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to minimise duplication of engagement efforts and streamline processes – particularly across different legislation (for example, the LGA, NBA/SPA, the Reserves Act etc). ? ? How could central and local government better align their engagement with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to address the burden of engagement and advisory requests on iwi/hapū/Māori from central and local government agencies, including opportunities for central and local government to better coordinate and align engagement activity. Would your council benefit from taking a more coordinated approach to engagement with iwi/hapū/Māori?</p> <p>↓ May lead to even greater demands being placed on iwi/hapū/Māori, particularly if stronger engagement requirements are put in place.</p> <p>↓ Looking only at legislation affecting local government may not adequately address the problem.</p> <p>↑ Any arrangements put in place must be sufficiently flexible to recognise the unique circumstances of iwi/hapū/Māori and councils across the motu.</p>
<p>#6 Amend the Local Government Act 2002 to require councils (elected members and chief executives) to prioritise and invest in developing and strengthening their capability and capacity in the areas of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori, tikanga, and the whakapapa of local government in order to make local government a better Te Tiriti partner.</p>	<p>This recommendation recognises that if local government is to be a Te Tiriti partner and have additional obligations to partner with iwi/hapū/Māori, then local government's capability and capacity in Te Tiriti o Waitangi, te ao Māori values, mātauranga Māori, tikanga and the whakapapa of local government must be developed.</p> <p>Many councils are already working hard to build their capability and capacity in these areas but are at different stages and have varying abilities to resource this effort. That means there must be sufficient flex in any legislative requirements.</p> <p>↑ Most councils already provide Te Tiriti training opportunities to both staff and elected members. This recommendation would strengthen existing work. ? ? Do there need to be ways to ensure elected members access appropriate training and development?</p> <p>↑ Introducing this requirement would help to ensure all councils have access to training and development opportunities in this area. What additional resourcing might be needed to support councils to fulfil these requirements? Could there be a role for LGNZ and Taituarā to assist with providing training and development?</p> <p>↑ If other related recommendations are adopted, investing in capability and capacity would help ensure that councils are able to fulfil the obligations they propose.</p>



<p>#7 Initiate a reorganisation of local government to strengthen, support, and resource councils to plan for and respond to increasing challenges and opportunities, and to set local government up for a more complex future.</p>	<p>The Panel recommends giving councils and chief executives specific responsibility to develop and maintain the capability of both council staff and elected members.</p>	<p>↑ May present opportunities for councils to work with local iwi/hapū/Māori providers of training and development.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity for council staff and elected members to develop new skills, experience and confidence.</p> <p>↓ May be expensive for small councils to deliver.</p> <p>↓ Challenges in accessing training providers with relevant experience.</p> <p>↓ Challenges for elected members to find time to invest in training and development on top of other council work and commitments outside of council. Similar challenges for council staff to find time to invest in training and development.</p> <p>↓ Relies on elected members choosing to participate/engage with training.</p>	<p>Are there any other actions that should be taken to support the capability and capacity of local government to be a better Te Tiriti Partner?</p>
	<p>Right now there are 78 local authorities in Aotearoa: 11 regional authorities, 61 territorial authorities and six unitary authorities. There are 110 community boards across the country – though not every council has community boards. Auckland Council has 21 local boards, which are different from community boards.</p> <p>The Panel recommends looking at local government’s future form and structure. This includes types of structure, roles and functions, and governance arrangements.</p> <p>The Panel suggests that local government needs to be reorganised so it can fulfil its purpose of ensuring local democracy, promoting intergenerational wellbeing and building Te Tiriti partnerships.</p> <p>The Panel recommends any reorganisation be guided by five principles, to manage the tension between centralism and localism. These five principles are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local: There is local, place-based decision-making and leadership. That includes local influence on decisions made about the area at a regional and national level. • Subsidiarity: Roles and functions should be delivered as close to the relevant community as possible, and the structure should enable this. • Resourced: Local government entities have the right people, skillsets and resources – or the ability to generate the funding needed. • Partnership: Local government entities have flexibility to partner with each other and with other parties to effectively and efficiently 	<p>↑ Panel is clear that councils need to reach decisions with their communities about appropriate structures – a one-size-fits-all approach won’t work. x ✓</p> <p>↑ An opportunity to revisit and enhance the role of community and local boards for providing local voice, input and decision-making.</p> <p>↑ Reorganisation may address funding pressures currently facing councils.</p> <p>↑ Would create scale – which has benefits for investment, service delivery, access to and retention of staff.</p> <p>↑ Central government would potentially invest more in local government if there were fewer entities to invest in.</p> <p>↑ Alignment between central government agencies and local government would be easier to achieve central government agencies had to align with fewer entities.</p> <p>↑ Would help to achieve greater alignment with water services entities and regional planning committees.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to consider whether existing structures enhance local democracy, promote intergenerational wellbeing and enable Te Tiriti-</p>	<p>Do you agree existing structures need to change?</p> <p>Do you agree with the five principles for reorganisation the Panel has identified? Are there any principles missing?</p> <p>What do you think the advantages and disadvantages of each of the two models that the Panel has proposed are?</p> <p>How could the two models the Panel proposes be improved?</p> <p>The Panel only suggests two options. Should any other options be on the table?</p> <p>Would you consider reorganisation if it made increasing local government’s funding more palatable for central government?</p> <p>What happens if communities think the status quo (including funding) is working?</p>



	<p>share decision-making and delivery of services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economies of scope: Local government entities use economies of scope and combine resources and expertise where appropriate so that services and functions are delivered to a high standard. <p>The Panel also says that any new system of local government needs to be Te Tiriti-consistent.</p> <p>The Panel is clear that councils must lead any structural change. It will not work if centralised decisions are made about which structure should be implemented in a particular area. The Panel suggests councils in each region should start by working together, alongside hapū/iwi and communities, to determine which structure and operating model best meets local needs. While regional discussions are a starting point, the Panel suggests some new councils may end up forming sub-regional clusters.</p> <p>The Panel also identifies an opportunity to think about how new local government structures could align with other structural reforms, including the introduction of 15 regional planning committees and potentially 10 water services entities.</p> <p>The Panel suggests two models for the structure of new councils. These are a unitary model and a combined network model.</p> <p>Unitary model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One council has responsibility for all local government roles and functions in an agreed region or sub-region, including those currently carried out by regional councils and territorial authorities. • One-stop-shop approach allows for joined-up back-office processes and systems, and for activities that are not locally specific to be delivered at scale. • New unitary councils operate in a way that supports locally specific decision-making, place-shaping, service delivery, and resource allocation. This includes locating staff and resources in local communities rather than concentrating them in one centre. • Unitary councils can devolve roles and functions to local or community entities as appropriate, including to hapū and iwi. • Unitary councils should make use of local or community boards and ward committees – but existing forms of local or community boards are reassessed. • Community members elect ward councillors and a mayor to the new unitary council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments. • Decisions about the number of councillors, the number of general and Māori wards, and the number of members there are in each 	<p>based partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↓ Potential to erode local voice. ↓ Large, complex organisations and multiple layers of bureaucracy could become difficult for communities to engage with. ↓ Larger organisations may not align well with rohe boundaries. ↓ Reorganisation processes are likely to be contentious. ↓ Councils in a region may have conflicting views on appropriate reorganisation arrangements. 	<p>What should happen if councils and communities can't reach agreement on any structural change?</p> <p>Do you agree with the Panel that reorganisation of local government should happen in tranches/a staged way?</p> <p>Are you on board with exploring reorganisation if ultimately all you're committing to is having a conversation with your community about what their views are?</p>
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ward are made locally.

The Panel's view is that this is a simple structure but will take more work to ensure that councils deliver well at place for their communities.

Combined network model

- Local councils retain focus on place-based delivery and decision-making, and work with other partners to address opportunities and challenges in their areas. A combined council carries out functions that affect the whole region or require specialist capability, and gives access to economies of scale. It also provides backbone support for its local councils by providing shared services where agreed (for example, IT).
- Local councils are responsible for activities that have a place-shaping component and raise the wellbeing of their communities. They provide leadership on local issues, deliver local services and local infrastructure, and set local rates. They also facilitate collaboration in their locality and the region.
- Combined councils are responsible for current regional council functions, particularly those which have a strong environmental management focus but also other issues that cross local borders. They also carry out other roles or functions on behalf of the whole region, where appropriate and agreed by local councils. They work with central government and hapū/iwi to determine regional priorities and make co-investment decisions with local councils.
- A local council may also carry out particular roles or functions on behalf of all councils in the network.
- Members of the community would elect ward councillors and a mayor of their local council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments.
- Each local council would appoint elected members (usually including the mayor) to the combined council. There may also be members appointed by hapū or iwi in the rohe if agreed as part of Te Tiriti-based appointments. One member of the combined council would be appointed as chairperson.

Because the combined network model retains local councils, it's easier to see how it would support place-based approaches. But strong relationships would be needed between all councils in a network to realise the broader benefits of this model.

If the combined network model was adopted there's a live question about whether all existing councils should be kept as they are.



<p>#8 Establish a dedicated Crown department to facilitate a more effective working relationship between local and central government that focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ a relational-based operating model to align priorities, roles, and funding ▶ brokering place-based approaches and agreements to address complex challenges and opportunities ▶ research, development, and innovation capability that equips local government to maximise intergenerational wellbeing for its communities. 	<p>The way forward</p> <p>The Panel has only put two structure models on the table. There could be other, better models. The models put forward by the Panel could also be tweaked.</p> <p>The Panel is clear that councils, working collaboratively at the regional level and with their communities, should decide which model will work best for them.</p> <p>The Panel’s view is that all councils need to choose one of the two models or the alternative – including existing unitary councils. It has recommended that reorganisation of councils happens in tranches.</p> <p>Before running local processes to determine the best structures, central and local government officials need to work through the specific process and mechanics for undertaking a reorganisation. This would include securing central government funding and making required legislative changes.</p>			
	<p>At the moment, many central government agencies work closely with local government to deliver outcomes at the local level. The Department of Internal Affairs has lead responsibility for the Government’s relationship with local government. It oversees local government legislation and policy, rates, local elections and the Local Government Commission. DIA works closely with other agencies that affect or influence local government, such as the Ministry for the Environment, the Ministry of Transport, Waka Kotahi, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, and Kainga Ora.</p> <p>To support its recommendations around central and local government collaborating at place to address and invest in communities’ wellbeing needs, the Panel recommends establishing a dedicated Crown department.</p> <p>The Panel’s view is that a new Crown department would help to break down existing structural barriers to working together. It would help aggregate the many government departments involved in delivering local outcomes.</p> <p>The Panel suggests the Crown department should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support agencies to join up on regional priorities and issues, providing a single and consistent central government presence when working at place with councils. • Build leadership capability that supports collaboration across central and local government. • Expedite the use of approaches like place-based agreements. • Provide a forum for ongoing discussion and resolution between central government and councils about allocating roles and 	<table border="0"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Dedicated focus on the relationship between central and local government, including working together at place. ↑ May help to achieve better alignment across the range of central government agencies that work with local government. ↓ A new department could duplicate the work of existing central government agencies – or lead to further siloes. ↓ Potential confusion as to where responsibilities sit across central government agencies. ↓ Could undermine existing working relationships. ↓ Costs of setting up a new department could be seen by as an investment in bureaucracy. ↑ Doesn’t necessarily lead to improvements in the relationship between central and local government politicians – if the focus is on agency relationships. </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; text-align: center;"> <p>?</p> <p>?</p> </td> <td style="vertical-align: top;"> <p>How much do you think a new department with a dedicated focus on central and local government’s relationship would improve that relationship?</p> <p>Are there other ways of improving the relationship between local government and central government agencies?</p> <p>How should this new department interact with existing agencies like DIA and the new Spatial Planning Office?</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Dedicated focus on the relationship between central and local government, including working together at place. ↑ May help to achieve better alignment across the range of central government agencies that work with local government. ↓ A new department could duplicate the work of existing central government agencies – or lead to further siloes. ↓ Potential confusion as to where responsibilities sit across central government agencies. ↓ Could undermine existing working relationships. ↓ Costs of setting up a new department could be seen by as an investment in bureaucracy. ↑ Doesn’t necessarily lead to improvements in the relationship between central and local government politicians – if the focus is on agency relationships. 	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Dedicated focus on the relationship between central and local government, including working together at place. ↑ May help to achieve better alignment across the range of central government agencies that work with local government. ↓ A new department could duplicate the work of existing central government agencies – or lead to further siloes. ↓ Potential confusion as to where responsibilities sit across central government agencies. ↓ Could undermine existing working relationships. ↓ Costs of setting up a new department could be seen by as an investment in bureaucracy. ↑ Doesn’t necessarily lead to improvements in the relationship between central and local government politicians – if the focus is on agency relationships. 	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>How much do you think a new department with a dedicated focus on central and local government’s relationship would improve that relationship?</p> <p>Are there other ways of improving the relationship between local government and central government agencies?</p> <p>How should this new department interact with existing agencies like DIA and the new Spatial Planning Office?</p>		



<p>#9 Establish a new local government stewardship institution to strengthen the health and fitness of the system. This entity should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ provide care for and oversight of the local government system, including the health of local democracy and local government’s future-fit capability and capacity ▶ foster common purpose and relationships ▶ support and enable the health of 	<p>functions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support consistent and more deliberate data collection and analysis, at a place-based level. • Develop research and innovation capability that maximises local government’s contribution to the intergenerational wellbeing of its communities. • Assess and inform policies that affect local government or where local government can make a greater contribution to national priorities. <p>The Panel says that to carry out these functions effectively, the new department must have the status and authority to convene multiple central government agencies. That’s because it would need to resolve strategic policy or cross-cutting issues in the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>The Panel’s report doesn’t address whether this Crown department should be separate from DIA. Some of DIA’s functions are in the list of functions the Panel thinks the Crown department should perform, others have been identified as ones the proposed stewardship institution could perform. DIA has some remaining local government functions whose future home remains unclear (eg for local government legislation).</p> <p>There’s also an opportunity to think about how this proposed department could align with the Spatial Planning Office that is being established to support the interdepartmental Spatial Planning Board. This is a board of central government agency chief executives that will have an interest in the process and outcomes of the new regional spatial planning approach – which is in part intended to deliver more joined up investment in regional growth by central and local government (in partnership with mana whenua).</p>				
	<p>The Panel has recommended creating a new independent local government stewardship institution to strengthen the health and fitness of the local government system.</p> <p>Currently there are a number of different players that have local government stewardship roles including DIA, the Local Government Commission, LGNZ and Taituarā. Each organisation plays different roles and brings a different lens. The range of organisations involved in stewardship means that there’s no clear high-level picture of what is good and needed for the local government system as a whole. Instead, there’s a complex, overlapping and often disjointed web of roles and responsibilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Would fill a gap in local government’s legislative architecture, as there is no quality control or agency able to take a “whole of government” view. ↑ An independent institution could provide an unfettered assessment of the health and fitness of the system and view of local government’s needs. ↑ Opportunity to be innovative and create a new institution that is not bound by current or institutional forms. ↑ Stewardship agency could provide more focus and resource dedicated to growing local government 	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>		<p>Do you think local government needs a stewardship institution? What should a stewardship institution focus on?</p> <p>Are there any alternatives to creating a new, standalone institution? Could LGNZ, Taituarā and the Local Government Commission be resourced to provide some of the stewardship functions?</p>



<p>the Māori–local government relationship ▶ incorporate the current roles and responsibilities of the Local Government Commission.</p>	<p>The Panel has suggested that the new institution would build on existing work by central and local government agencies, and that its stewardship priorities should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversight and care for the health and fitness of the local government system. • Building capability and capacity of the local government system. • Fostering relationships and driving towards a common purpose. • Supporting and enabling the health of the iwi/hapū/Māori relationship. • Incorporating the functions of the Local Government Commission. <p>The Panel also recommends that the stewardship institution should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have responsibility for guiding and supporting the Panel’s proposed structural reform process. • Provide governance support to councils, including support for code of conduct matters, and advice to ministers. • Play a role in future representation reviews. • Assess the cumulative impact of central government decisions on the local government system. • Design a governance framework to support the local government system. <p>The Panel says existing sector organisations don’t have the resources or mandates to fulfil these functions and roles.</p> <p>The Panel proposes that the stewardship institution work alongside a new Crown department focused on facilitating the relationship between central and local government.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that the independent stewardship institution have a reputation and standing akin to a parliamentary officer (without this necessarily being vested in an individual), leaving open the possibility of a new, innovative form.</p>	<p>capacity and capability in certain areas – including those needed to support system change.</p> <p>↓ Has the potential to duplicate functions performed by existing central government agencies, such as the Office of the Auditor-General.</p> <p>↓ Considerable cost involved in setting up any institution.</p> <p>↓ Level of investment required means it may not actually be independent.</p> <p>↓ Need for more certainty around how any stewardship institution would interact with the proposed Crown agency (see recommendation 8).</p> <p>↓ Independence may result in actual or perceived failure by the institution to meet local government’s needs.</p> <p>↓ Any investment by local government in setting up the new institution may impact the level to which local government can invest in its own membership organisations.</p>	<p>How do we ensure that any stewardship agency is independent?</p>
<p>#10 Local government and councils develop and invest in democratic innovations, including participatory and deliberative democracy processes.</p>	<p>LGNZ’s vision is for New Zealand to be the most active and inclusive local democracy in the world. Through our engagement on the Future for Local Government, we’ve heard that councils want their communities to be more actively engaged with local government.</p> <p>Councils’ engagement and consultation with communities is currently guided by the provisions in Part 6 of the LGA. These provisions can reduce those processes to compliance exercises, rather than deep and meaningful engagements and collaborations.</p> <p>Greater use of participatory and deliberative democracy processes could more actively involve a range of communities in decision-making in innovative ways and ramp up engagement. Participatory democracy</p>	<p>↑ Likely to increase engagement with and participation in local government – which in turn is likely to increase voter turnout. ✓</p> <p>↑ Participatory and deliberative democracy processes can be tailored to meet communities’ unique needs and circumstances.</p> <p>↑ They would help increase engagement with diverse groups that can be under-represented (eg Māori, Pasifika, youth, lower socio-economic groups).</p> <p>↑ May help to strengthen trust in local democracy.</p> <p>?</p>	<p>What stops councils using participatory and deliberative democracy processes?</p> <p>What would help or support your council to make greater use of participatory and deliberative democracy processes?</p> <p>How else could councils get more citizens engaged and</p>



<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▶ adopting ranked voting (also known as single transferrable vote or STV) as nationwide method for local elections</p>	<p>processes enable any citizen to voice their opinion on a particular topic. Deliberative democracy processes involve a representative sample of the population responding to a particular question.</p> <p>Many councils are already using these processes. For example, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council has used participatory budgeting, and Horowhenua District Council has set up citizens' panels.</p> <p>While there's nothing in the LGA stopping councils from using participatory or deliberative democracy processes, changes to the LGA would support and encourage greater use of them, as well as making engagement less of a compliance exercise.</p>	<p>↓ Participatory and deliberative democracy processes can be costly and time consuming.</p> <p>↓ Some councils don't have the capacity or capability right now to engage in new and different ways with their communities.</p> <p>↓ There's not currently a good level of understanding of the processes that could be used – more sharing of best practice is needed.</p>		<p>interested in local government/local decision-making?</p>
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▶ lowering the voting age for local elections to 16.</p>	<p>Right now councils can decide which voting system they use in local body elections – either Single Transferable Vote (STV) or First Past the Post (FPP).</p> <p>FPP involves voters using a tick to indicate their chosen candidate/s. The candidate/s with the most votes are elected. Under STV, voters use numbers to rank candidates in order of preference. Fifteen councils used the STV voting method in 2022, up from 11 in 2019.</p> <p>The Panel says STV better represents voters' choices because a vote is transferred if a preferred candidate does not succeed. This transfer of votes avoids wasted ballots. Early research demonstrates that STV leads to improvements in the representation of women. However, the representative benefits of STV work best when there is a large pool of candidates and wards, with more than one seat being contested.</p> <p>The Panel recognises STV is not well understood by voters. It recommends changing its name to something like 'ranked choice voting'.</p>	<p>↑ Consistent local body voting systems across the country would help build understanding and reduce confusion.</p> <p>↑ Likely to result in greater diversity around council tables. This would likely increase community engagement and participation – particularly by traditionally under-represented communities.</p> <p>↑ Having more wards might mean more candidates stand, and prompt councils to take new approaches to their representation arrangements.</p> <p>↓ Removes the flexibility for councils to make a choice about which voting system they want to use.</p> <p>↓ There is public confusion and lack of understanding about STV. FPP is a more straightforward system for voters.</p> <p>↑ Introducing new voting systems may be costly for councils.</p>	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>What would make it easier for your council to introduce STV?</p> <p>Is there value in taking a national approach to local government's voting system?</p> <p>Are there other changes that would increase diversity around the council table and voter turnout?</p>
	<p>The current minimum voting age for both local and general elections is 18. There have been calls to lower the voting age to 16, including through the Make it 16 campaign.</p> <p>The Government recently introduced the Electoral (Lowering Voting Age for Local Elections and Polls) Legislation Bill. If passed, the Bill would enable 16- and 17-year olds to vote and stand in local elections and vote in local polls. 16- and 17-year olds would remain ineligible to vote or be candidates in licencing trust elections, national referenda and general elections.</p> <p>Any progress on this Bill will depend on the incoming government.</p>	<p>↑ More diverse people engage with and participate in local government.</p> <p>↑ Presents an opportunity to think about introducing and investing in civics education.</p> <p>↑ Opportunity to test whether lowering the voting age increases participation in elections.</p> <p>↑ Provides an opportunity to grow understanding of what local government is and does.</p>	<p>?</p> <p>?</p>	<p>Should the voting age be the same for local and central government elections?</p> <p>Would you support lowering the voting age if that was accompanied by civics education?</p> <p>How else could we increase young people's engagement with and participation in local government?</p>



<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by: ► providing for a four-year local electoral term</p>	<p>The voting age for local elections is currently 16 in Wales, Scotland and Austria.</p> <p>The Panel has recommended lowering the voting age to 16 as one way to ensure that youth are represented in local democracy.</p> <p>Many councils already facilitate young people’s input into local government decision-making, including through youth councils and youth panels.</p> <p>There is no formal requirement in New Zealand for younger people to receive civics education.</p>	<p>↓ Local government being treated as a ‘guinea pig’ and potential for inconsistent approaches between general and local elections.</p> <p>↓ Lowering the voting age might not increase participation in local body elections if not coupled with civics education.</p> <p>↑ Some people think 16- and 17-year olds lack the skills, experience and knowledge to vote and stand for election or are strongly influenced by parents/peers.</p>			
	<p>Councils are currently elected to represent their communities for a three-year term. Governments are also elected for a three-year term.</p> <p>There’s growing debate here and overseas about whether three-year terms give councils and governments enough time to deliver for their communities.</p> <p>Four years is the most common length of term for councils in comparable overseas jurisdictions: Scotland, England, most of Canada and a number of Australian states. In some parts of the world, it’s five years.</p> <p>We’ve heard from some of you that if local government terms shifted to three years so should central government, to ensure alignment between central and local government planning and decision-making cycles.</p> <p>Significant constitutional changes such as this usually require a broad political consensus and significant community engagement. While likely to be supported by both major parties, a four-year term for central and local government is likely to attract criticism and so central government are likely to be cautious in implementing this recommendation.</p>	<p>↑ Would give councils more time to get things done and deliver good outcomes for their communities. ✓ ?</p> <p>↑ Would probably encourage decision-making focused on the longer-term.</p> <p>↑ May encourage greater turnout in local body elections.</p> <p>↓ May be seen as limiting turnover (and therefore diversity of views) of elected members.</p> <p>↓ There are challenges if central and local government planning and decision-making cycles don’t align.</p> <p>↓ May lead to less interest in (and engagement with) local government.</p> <p>↓ May lead to more by-elections, with associated costs and other impacts.</p> <p>↓ Dysfunctional councils would have a greater impact and erode public trust to a greater degree.</p>	<p>Is a four-year term the right length?</p> <p>Do you think local and central government terms should be the same length?</p> <p>If the local government term was increased, should there be any changes to the current powers of the minister to assist or intervene when there are problems with management or governance?</p>		
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by: ► enabling Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils</p>	<p>The Panel says Te Tiriti-based partnership will be significantly enhanced if iwi and hapū are represented at the council table. It recommends legislative change to allow for Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils as well as the development of policy and processes to support this change.</p> <p>The Panel says it made this recommendation because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representative mechanisms based solely on the Western ideal of proportional democracy cannot always provide a level of influence consistent with a Te-Tiriti based partnership. • The collective, political authority aspect of rangatiratanga is predominantly held and exercised by hapū/iwi, and Māori wards were not designed to ensure representation of mana whenua or 	<p>↑ A meaningful way to give effect to Te Tiriti-based partnership. ? ?</p> <p>↑ Would increase the diversity of views around the council table.</p> <p>↑ Flexibility for hapū and iwi to participate in this way if they wish, rather than it being mandatory reflects that circumstances and preferences will vary between hapū and iwi.</p>			
			<p>How could concerns about the democratic implications of these appointments be addressed?</p> <p>What else could give effect to a Te Tiriti-based partnership between local government and hapū, iwi and Māori?</p>		



	<p>kaupapa-based groups.</p> <p>Te Tiriti-based appointments essentially mean that mana whenua representatives could be appointed to councils – as opposed to being democratically elected.</p> <p>Te Tiriti-based appointments are not unprecedented. Under the Canterbury Regional Council (Ngāi Tahu Representation) Act 2022, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu can appoint up to two members of the Environment Canterbury Council. These members have full decision-making powers.</p> <p>The Panel has suggested that if members are appointed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They should receive the same remuneration as other members. • Hapū and iwi should determine who is appointed (although the numbers of members may be set through a different process). • Hapū and iwi participation should not be mandatory but the invitation should be extended. 	<p>↑ Enhances steps councils are already taking to work in partnership with hapū, iwi and Māori.</p> <p>↓ Could be seen as eroding local democracy.</p> <p>↓ May create implementation challenges if there are multiple hapū and iwi in the area.</p> <p>↓ Would generate additional costs for councils.</p> <p>↓ Accountability mechanisms are unclear.</p> <p>↑ Hapū and iwi may find it difficult to take on additional responsibilities given existing resourcing and capacity challenges.</p>			
<p>#11 Enhance local democracy in order to increase access and representation by:</p> <p>▸ lowering the threshold for the establishment of Māori wards</p>	<p>Māori wards (for territorial authorities) and constituencies (for regional councils) provide an opportunity for Māori to have culturally specific, proportionate representation in their area. All councils must consider whether Māori wards should be established in their areas, although it is not mandatory to have them.</p> <p>At the 2022 local body elections, 35 councils had Māori wards or constituencies.</p> <p>This recommendation is about retaining Māori wards and constituencies, and making it easier for councils to establish them. The Local Electoral Act 2001 sets out a formula for establishing Māori wards, which takes account of numbers on the Māori roll, the normally resident Māori population and the existing number of councillors.</p> <p>The Panel doesn't make any specific recommendations as to the threshold for establishing Māori wards. One option is to come up with a formula that gives less weight to the size of the governing body.</p> <p>As well as recommending lowering the threshold for establishing Māori wards, the Panel recommended Te Tiriti-based appointments to councils (Recommendation 11). The Panel's rationale is that while Māori wards support proportional representation, they are not sufficient for Te Tiriti-based partnership at the council table. This is because Māori wards and constituencies were not designed to provide for representation of hapū and iwi or significant kaupapa-based groups.</p>	<p>↑ Consistent with growing levels of support across the motu for Māori wards and constituencies.</p> <p>↑ Would increase diversity around council tables and encourage more diversity of communities engaging with and participating in local government.</p> <p>↓ Māori wards and constituencies don't provide for representation of hapū or iwi.</p> <p>↓ Some hapū and iwi prefer Te Tiriti based appointments to wards/constituencies.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Are Māori wards and constituencies the most effective mechanism for involving Māori in decision-making?</p> <p>Should we place greater emphasis on this recommendation, or the recommendation to introduce Te Tiriti-based appointments?</p>
<p>#12 Local and central government coinvest to build adaptive leadership capability focusing on:</p>	<p>The Panel says that to deliver change, leadership capability needs to be strengthened across both local and central government.</p> <p>The Panel identifies four areas where co-investment by central and local</p>	<p>↑ Recognises that both central and local government will need support to transition to new ways of working.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>How could this recommendation align with the Panel's suggestion that a local</p>



<p>▶ leading change and system renewal ▶ valuing civic leadership and public service ▶ partnership and collaboration ▶ innovation and experimentation.</p>	<p>government would drive the changes it recommends. These include investing in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing, supporting and developing leaders in local government (particularly CEs and also council staff) who are open to learning, taking calculated risks and trying new things. • Maintaining, valuing and recognising the importance of civic leadership and public service. This is about embedding the ethos of public service in the culture and values of councils. • Supporting people in local government to develop skills around building relationships, partnerships and collaboration. The Panel saw this as an opportunity for central and local government to think about how they can better share people and collaborate on development, through things like secondments, partnerships and shared training. • Building a culture and risk appetite for embracing new technology and innovative ways of doing things. <p>The report doesn't go into detail on what the investment to support these four areas could look like, or how investment could be shared between central and local government.</p> <p>Many councils are already working to build skills, capability and capacity in these four areas. LGNZ and Taituarā also support councils' capability building. Supporting councils to develop in these areas is a key focus of LGNZ's Choose Localism mahi.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises central government needs to change the ways it's doing things for local government to make progress.</p> <p>↑ Enhances and supports the work councils, LGNZ and Taituarā are already doing in these areas – while recognising there's room to do more.</p> <p>↓ Lack of clarity around where the investment is most needed and what investment is required.</p> <p>↓ Building leadership capability and skills takes time – which has implications for councils' already significant workloads.</p> <p>↓ Some members of the public may see this as unnecessary investment in central and local government bureaucracy.</p> <p>↓ Local government's existing, significant funding pressures will make it difficult for it to invest more in these areas.</p>	<p>government stewardship agency should be created?</p> <p>Could central government invest in enabling LGNZ and Taituarā to enhance the work they're already doing to support councils develop (which would be a cheaper option)?</p> <p>Are there any other areas where we need to invest to build leadership capability?</p>
<p>#13 In order to prioritise and deliver on wellbeing, central government makes a greater investment in local government through: ▶ significant funding to support local priorities, place-based agreements, and devolution of roles.</p>	<p>This is another idea for how the funding pressures facing councils could be alleviated.</p> <p>This recommendation is less about a direct transfer of funding to councils, and more about how central government investments align with councils' investments in local needs and priorities, and how it invests in councils' capacity and capability to deliver.</p> <p>This recommendation presents an opportunity to think about how central government could invest in councils by enabling them to deliver certain services on behalf of central government at the local level.</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address funding pressures.</p>	<p>↑ Recognises that local government's proximity to its communities means it's best placed to make decisions about what investments are needed.</p> <p>↑ Creates better alignment between central and local government investment.</p> <p>↑ Helps to minimise duplication of investment.</p> <p>↑ Presents an opportunity to think about devolving roles to local government.</p> <p>↓ Potential for funding commitments by central government to relate to their priorities rather than genuinely reflect local priorities/needs.</p> <p>↓ Likely to introduce greater need for compliance with central government reporting/accountability obligations, which may have impacts on local government workload.</p>	<p>✓ ?</p> <p>What might make it difficult to align investment priorities with central government?</p> <p>Are there any particular areas where you think aligned investment would be helpful (eg transport, infrastructure, community services)?</p>
<p>#13 In order to prioritise and deliver on wellbeing, central government</p>	<p>Local government faces a significant funding challenge – it simply does not have enough funding to meet growing expectations from</p>	<p>↑ Provides councils with additional funding to deliver services to meet the needs of current and future</p>	<p>✓ ✗</p> <p>Do you think that an annual transfer of \$1 billion is</p>



<p>makes a greater investment in local government through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ an annual transfer of revenue equivalent to GST charged on rates 	<p>communities and central government, nor deal with pressures like climate change, growth and tourism.</p> <p>Councils receive most of their funding through rates. As cost-of-living pressures increase, councils face growing pressure from their communities to keep rates down, but councils' costs are increasing.</p> <p>Successive reviews have recommended many changes to local government funding –but have had limited uptake of those recommendations by successive governments.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that central government provide councils with an annual transfer of funds to councils. The Panel suggests that, as a starting point, central government establish a \$1 billion per annum funding transfer, with this amount to be reviewed annually.</p> <p>The Panel suggests \$1 billion a year for two main reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's large enough to make an impact. It's approximately equivalent to the Provincial Growth Fund, which distributed about \$3 billion over three years. • It's also roughly equivalent to the amount that property owners paid in GST on their rates during 2021/22. <p>The Panel suggests that councils use this funding to pay for locally defined priorities and projects that support intergenerational wellbeing and local democracy but might not otherwise be funded. The Panel is clear that funding should be distributed equitably, and that councils should be accountable for how they spend the money.</p> <p>While additional funding would make a difference to local government, more money doesn't directly address the unfunded mandate issue. There's a risk that along with increasing funding central government would lump more responsibility to deliver services and meet statutory obligations on councils. Any increase in funding should also come with clear requirements for central government to consider the funding and resourcing implications of any decisions that affect councils (see also recommendation #16).</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address councils' funding pressures.</p>	<p>generations – and helps alleviate existing funding pressures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Requires central government to invest in local government. ↓ A risk that funding is distributed on a competitive basis – which creates additional work and resourcing burdens for councils. ↓ Unlikely to be sufficient to address the significant funding pressures that councils are facing. ↓ Doesn't address the unfunded mandate issue, in terms of whether councils actually have adequate resources to meet additional obligations imposed on them. ↓ Could result in greater restrictions on how councils conduct their business, and increased reporting and accountability requirements. 	<p>sufficient? How would you determine an appropriate amount?</p> <p>Should this funding be 'earmarked' for certain council activities, or should councils be able to spend it as they please?</p> <p>How should this funding be allocated? For example, should it be on a competitive basis or an equitable basis (like a formula), or a subsidy for specific activities (like the Transport Financial Assistance Rate)?</p> <p>What are other options for increasing the funding available to local government?</p>
<p>#14 Central government pays rates on Crown property</p>	<p>This recommendation is another option the Panel identifies for increasing local government's funding.</p> <p>Currently, central government agencies pay limited or no rates and charges on their properties. Successive local government funding reviews have recommended this change but it has never been implemented. In some areas, some central government agencies pay targeted rates for sewerage (wastewater), water, and rubbish collection if they are separately charged by the local council.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ This would be a good faith step by central government and show commitment to a more equitable funding model. ↑ Would address perceived funding power imbalances between central and local government. ↑ Would help to alleviate some of the funding pressures on councils by providing a new source of revenue. 	<p>✓ ?</p> <p>What about councils that don't have large amounts of Crown-owned land and capital improvements?</p>



<p>#15 Central government develops an intergenerational fund for climate change, with the application of the fund requiring appropriate regional and local decision-making.</p>	<p>The Panel recommends that central government pays rates and charges on its land and capital improvements. Legislative change would be needed to make this happen.</p> <p>This option alone is unlikely to fully address funding pressures.</p>	<p>↓ Potentially only benefits those districts/cities/regions with large amounts of Crown-owned land and capital improvements – so funding inequity issues remain.</p>			
	<p>This is another recommendation designed to address the funding pressures facing councils.</p> <p>Funding climate change action is a challenge for councils now and will become even bigger challenge in the future, as extreme weather events become more frequent and severe. Climate change is a challenge that councils and communities won't be able to fund on their own.</p> <p>For many years, there have been calls by local government (and others) for more funding to support climate change action at the local level.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that this fund be used for climate change adaptation action. They have left open the question of whether the fund should also apply to climate change mitigation.</p> <p>The Panel hasn't gone into great detail about how the fund should work, or what the level of funding contributed by central government should be. These issues are currently being considered through the Environment Committee inquiry into community-led retreat.</p>	<p>↑ Provides councils with additional funding to meet current and future climate change adaptation challenges.</p> <p>↑ A good example of a way in which central government could invest in action at the local level that supports it to realise national level objectives.</p> <p>↑ Local priorities informing investment decisions.</p> <p>↑ Has the potential to incentivise investment in proactive risk reduction.</p> <p>↓ Potential for inadequate funding of New Zealand's adaptation challenges.</p> <p>↓ Complexity in determining best use of the fund – including timing and level of investment in different projects.</p> <p>↓ Competitive funding processes create additional burdens for councils.</p> <p>↓ Could create false sense of security and disincentivise good land use planning decisions.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>What should be in scope for this kind of fund? Should it cover adaptation action only, or also capture mitigation?</p> <p>How should a fund like this be administered? What should criteria for accessing the funding be?</p>
<p>#16 Cabinet is required to consider the funding impact on local government of proposed policy decisions.</p>	<p>When making decisions that affect councils, there's currently no requirement for Cabinet to consider how the decision will impact local government's funding/resourcing. This means that decisions often impose new and additional requirements on councils that they cannot afford or don't have the resources to fulfil. This is known as an unfunded mandate and creates pressures on councils' existing budgets and resourcing.</p> <p>Introducing a requirement on Cabinet to consider the impacts of its decisions on local government's funding wouldn't necessarily translate to more funding for local government – Cabinet would need to agree to make more funding available. But it would result in greater scrutiny of the changes and requirements imposed on local government, and the support they need to fulfil them.</p> <p>As noted above, making additional funding available to councils should be coupled with this recommendation to ensure councils can meet any requirements imposed on them.</p>	<p>↑ Greater scrutiny of the requirements and responsibilities being placed on local government – and potential for increased funding to support councils to fulfil them.</p> <p>↑ Might help limit the number of additional responsibilities (without extra funding) being imposed on local government.</p> <p>↓ Requirement to consider funding impacts of decisions doesn't automatically result in additional funding being provided.</p> <p>↓ May require more reporting from local government to enable central government agencies to provide assessments to Cabinet – which could add to existing workloads.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>x</p>	<p>Are there any impacts (other than financial ones) you think Cabinet should be specifically required to consider when making decisions that affect councils?</p>



<p>#17 Central government commits to enabling the future transition with funding to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ resource a transition unit to support the change and system renewal of local government ▶ supplement local government capacity funding to enable hapū/iwi and Māori to partner with councils ▶ support councils to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ build Te Tiriti and te ao Māori capability and grow hapū/iwi and Māori relationships ▶ lift their immediate capacity and capability to innovatively deliver wellbeing priorities for their communities ▶ trial and grow participatory and deliberative democracy practices. 	<p>This recommendation suggests ways in which central government should provide funding and resourcing to support local government to transition to a new future, including resourcing the establishment of a transition unit and providing local government with additional funding to support hapū/iwi and Māori to build their capacity to partner with councils.</p> <p>It also suggests that central government needs to provide councils with additional resourcing to support them to build capability around Te Tiriti and te ao Māori, innovatively deliver wellbeing priorities, and trial and grow the use of participative and deliberative democracy processes.</p> <p>The Panel suggests that a transition unit should be established as a formal entity to start the reform programme, including leading work to establish the stewardship agency and Crown department that the Panel recommends, and setting the mechanics and legislative settings that would be needed to support reorganisation and realignment of local government. It also suggests that the transition unit looks at broader policy and budget changes that would be needed to support new ways of partnering between local government, central government, and hapū/iwi.</p> <p>The Panel recommends that before the transition unit is established, a steering group should be set up and resourced to scope the reform programme and establish the transition unit. It recommends that the steering group be chaired by a local government leader, play a key role in advising the incoming Government and reflect a genuine partnership between central and local government – including being supported by a joint team from across central and local government.</p> <p>LGNZ and Taituarā are already leading work with local government to think about what the reform programme could look like. LGNZ’s work to build a consensus position on the Panel’s report is a key part of this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ↑ Recognises that change to local government will require strong partnership between central and local government. ✓ ↑ Recognises the significant level of work and investment that will be needed to deliver the change that the Panel recommends. ↑ Resourcing councils to get on with work they can do ahead of legislative/system change (eg trialling use of participative and deliberative democracy and building Te Tiriti and te ao Māori capability). ↓ Some may view establishment of steering group and transition unit as unnecessary layers of bureaucracy/significant additional cost. ↓ May result in more ‘top down’ control of what local government’s future looks like – rather than giving local government the ability to shape its own future. ↓ Risks that steering group and transition unit processes will create additional work for councils. ↓ Perceptions that steering group and transition unit processes and bureaucracy can slow down progress. 	<p>?</p> <p>Do you think it would be useful to establish a steering group and transition unit along the lines the Panel has proposed?</p> <p>What could an alternative approach be? For example, could LGNZ and Taituarā be resourced to lead some of this work with local government instead?</p>
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9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Deputy Chief Executive's Report - September 2023

Author: Carol Gordon, Interim Deputy Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This report provides Elected Members with an update on key activities across the organisation. Items requiring a specific decision are towards the end of this report.

2. Events Held Across the District – Council's Facilities

2.1 29 August - Rangitikei Tough Kids - McIntyre Reserve, Ohingaiti.

3. Health Safety and Wellbeing Update

3.1 The dashboard for August 2023 is attached (Attachment 1).

4. Staff Movements

4.1 In August, we welcomed the following employees:

- Kevin Ross, Interim Chief Executive
- Trish Ward, Cleaner
- Ben Caldwell, Communications Coordinator
- Chloe Garford, Casual Cleaner

4.2 We also farewelled the following team members in August:

- Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
- Hilary Walker, Management and Systems Accountant
- Lesley Hardwidge, Senior Parks Assistant
- Jaime Reibel, Strategic Advisor – Economic Development

5. Update on Community Water Fluoridation

5.1 Attached is a letter from Dr Diana Sarfati, Director General of Health in advising that further work is required before they direct Council to fluoridate the Marton, Taihape and Bulls water supplies. No further action is required from Council at this time.

6. External Submissions

Consultations proposed for submission:

- 6.1 Issues Relating to Use of Highly Productive Land (HPL) – submissions close on 9 October 2023. The two issues being consulted on are a lack of a clear consent pathway for:
- Construction of new specified infrastructure on HPL in clause 3.9(2)(j)(i). Specified infrastructure can include developments such as solar farms and infrastructure needed at pace
 - Development and relocation of intensive indoor primary production and greenhouses on HPL.
- 6.2 Advancing New Zealand’s Energy Strategy. Various agencies under MBIE have prepared a range of discussion documents on aspects of the transition to clean energy, including the transition for the gas sector, “measures for transition” to an expanded, renewable electricity system, banning new fossil fuel baseload electricity generation, a hydrogen roadman, and offshore renewable energy. Officers suggest reviewing any sector responses, and request Council feedback on focus areas. Submissions close on 2 November 2023.
- 6.3 Emergency Management Bill. This Bill is to replace the current CDEM Act. Submissions close on 3 November 2023.

Consultations – yet to be confirmed on whether to submit:

- 6.4 Proposal to require the use of New Zealand Vertical Datum 2016 (NZVD2016) for cadastral surveys – submissions close on 9 October 2023.
- 6.5 Transitional National Planning Framework - focuses on carrying across the policy intent of the existing national direction made under the RMA. It also includes some new direction to support the development of regional spatial strategies (RSS), a first set of attributes for environmental limits and targets, direction on good planning outcomes that reduce the risks of natural hazards and the effects of climate change, protection of outstanding natural landscapes and outstanding natural features, protection of cultural heritage and providing for infrastructure. Submissions close on 13 December 2023.

Consultations submitted on during August / September 2023:

- 6.6 Copies of all submissions that were made during August/September are listed on Councils website - [Submissions made to other Organisations: Rangitikei District Council](#)

7. Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund 2024

- 7.1 Attached is a letter from Hon Carmel Sepuloni advising that applications are now open for the Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund 2024 and that new criteria has been established to make the process easier to apply. The closing date for applications is Friday, 13 October 2023.

8. Horizons Proposed Plan Change 3 Urban Development - Revised Hearing Timetable

8.1 In August, Officers reported that the hearing for Horizons Proposed Change 3 (Urban Development) had been scheduled to begin on Wednesday, 18 October 2023. Horizons have since revised the hearing schedule, with the hearing now due to commence on Wednesday, 7 February 2024. Officers will continue engaging in pre-hearing discussions with the aim of resolving submission points raised prior to the hearing. Should resolution not occur, Officers will continue to request speaking rights, and submit expert planning evidence.

9. Amendment to Council's Standing Orders

9.1 From 1 October 2023 a series of amendments to the Local Government Act will be enacted. The Act corrects the anomaly that meant an elected member could vote via audio or audio-visual link but was not counted towards the quorum. The Act enables councils to manage remote participation through their standing orders but this must be done by 1 October 2023.

9.2 It is proposed to amend clause "13.1 – Member's status: quorum" as outlined below:

13.1 Member's status: quorum

Members who attend meetings by electronic link will ~~not~~ be counted as present for the purposes of a quorum, ~~unless temporary legislation states otherwise.~~

LGA 2002, sch 7, cl 25A(4). [updated from 1 October 2023]

9.3 Recommendation 2 below refers.

10. Financial Implications

10.1 There are no financial implications for this operational report.

11. Impact on Strategic Risks

11.1 There are no strategic risk implications for this operational report.

12. Mana whenua implications

12.1 There are no mana whenua implications for this operational report.

13. Statutory Implications

13.1 There are no statutory implications for this operational report.

14. Decision Making Process

14.1 This item is not considered to be a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Attachments:

1. **Health Safety Dashboard - August 23** [↓](#)
2. **Fluoridation Update - Letter from Director-General of Health** [↓](#)
3. **Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund 2024** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1:

That the Deputy Chief Executive's Report – September 2023 be received.

Recommendation 2:

That clause 13.1 of Council's Standing Orders be amended to read:

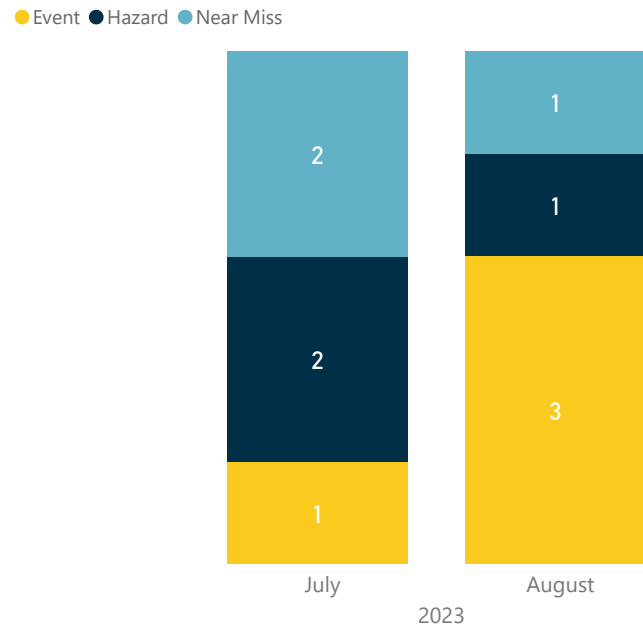
13.1 Member's status: quorum

Members who attend meetings by electronic link will be counted as present for the purposes of a quorum.

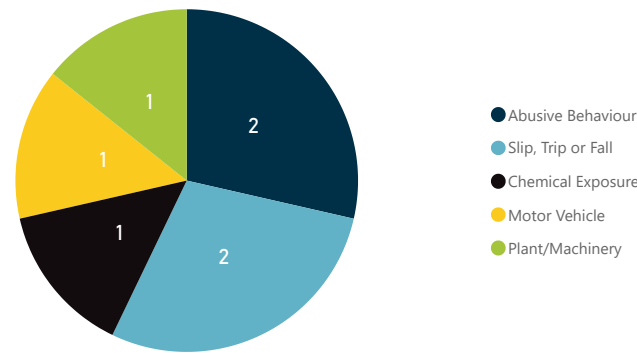
LGA 2002, sch 7, cl 25A(4). [updated from 1 October 2023]

Rangitīkei District Council Health & Safety

Events, Hazards and Near Misses 01 July 2023 to date



Event/Near Miss Category 01 July 2023 to date



Wellbeing News

Wellbeing News

Psychological First Aid Course 17th October Te Matapihi Bulls

Psychological First Aid is a simple, yet powerful way of helping someone in distress, so they feel calm and supported in coping with challenges. We are offering to all staff the opportunity to attend the next Psychological First Aid Course being held at Te Matapihi in Bulls on Tuesday 17th October. If you're interested, please contact Matt to register your interest.

Mole Maps

Anyone wanting a full body Mole Map, there are still appointments available. This promotion is covered by My Everyday Wellbeing and is a great opportunity to get those weird shaped moles on your body checked out. If you're interested, please contact Marcelle for further information.

Reporting

Our new online Incident and Near Miss Reporting Form is now available on Kapua. You can use this to report accidents, near misses and hazards. Remember that reporting near misses is just as important as reporting accidents.

Neck and Shoulder Massages

Helen from the Kiwi Backrub company provides 15, 20 and 30 minute massage sessions for RDC staff every second Monday of the month. These take place in the Rata room at High Street. If you're interested in booking a Neck and Shoulder Massage or have any further questions, please contact Marcelle.

Last Month

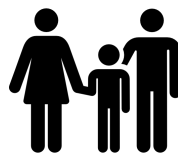
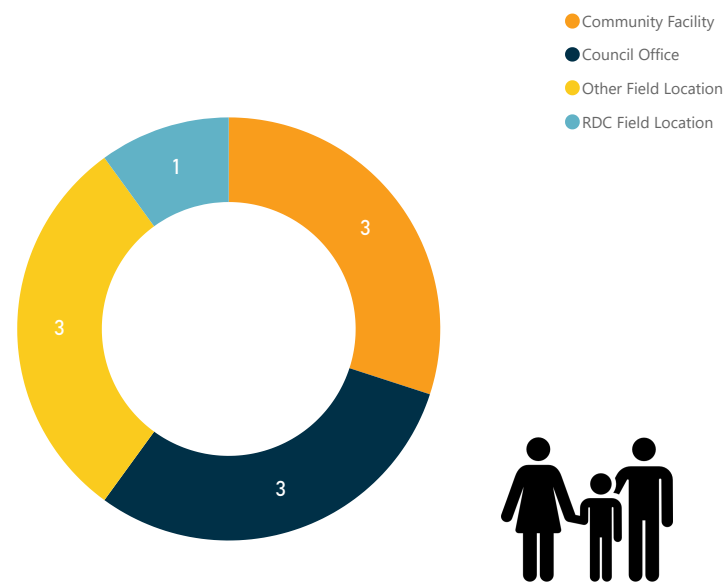
July 2023

3 Events
0 Notifiable Incidents
0 Notifiable Illness/Injuries

1 Near Misses
1 Hazards

Location

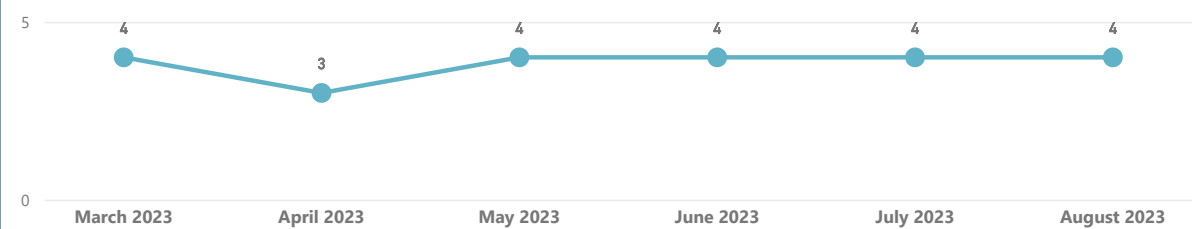
Events, Hazards and Near Misses



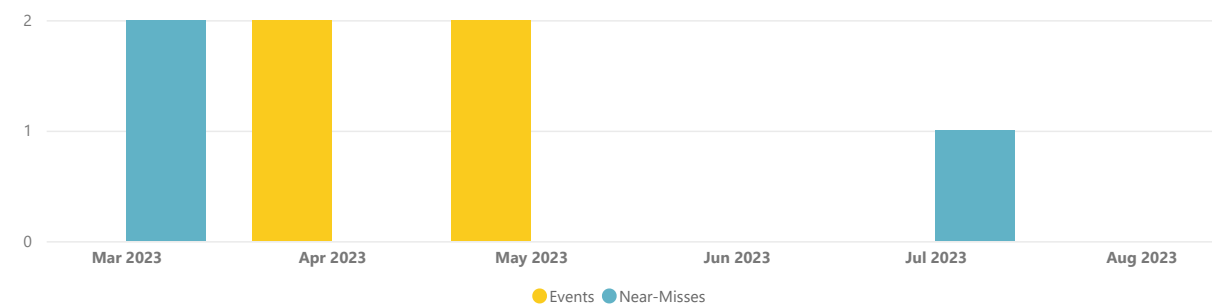
Average Driver Ratings

Ratings from E-Road Dashboard (Overspeed / Harsh Braking & Harsh Acceleration Events)

39% Completed Driver Safety Training



Vehicle Incidents





133 Molesworth Street
PO Box 5013
Wellington 6140
New Zealand
T+64 4 496 2000

4 September 2023

Kevin Ross
Interim Chief Executive
Rangitīkei District Council
kevin.ross@rangitikei.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Kevin

Update on consideration of directions for community water fluoridation

I wrote to the Rangitīkei District Council on 3 November 2022 to let you know I was actively considering whether to direct the Council to fluoridate the Marton, Taihape and Bulls water supplies, under section 116E of the Health Act 1956.

Thank you for providing the information requested to inform my decision on whether to issue any directions regarding these water supplies.

Today I am writing to advise you this remains under active consideration but will take further time. This is to allow consideration of the impact of several wider factors including the Government's Water Services Reform programme, capacity pressures across the water services sector, and the impact of recent weather events in the North Island.

Local authorities that received Director-General of Health directions to fluoridate in July 2022 are making timely progress. One supply is now being fluoridated, and more are expected over the next 12 months. Manatū Hauora is working closely with these local authorities, and I appreciate the ongoing engagement as they work to implement community water fluoridation. Importantly, Manatū Hauora is gaining insights from this work that I will also be taking into consideration when making further decisions about directions to fluoridate.

At this stage, no further action is required from your Council. I will write to provide any further updates relating to the timing of any decision or if further information is required.

In the meantime, there is nothing to prevent you from fluoridating your water supplies in the absence of a direction from me, should you decide to do so. Community water fluoridation is an effective way to improve oral health outcomes for your communities and to improve oral health equity.

Thank you for your collaboration as we work together to improve the oral health of the communities we serve.

If you have any questions or would like to contact the team, please continue to use the email address: fluoride@health.govt.nz. The team would be more than happy to respond to any inquiries.

Nāku noa, nā



Dr Diana Sarfati
Director-General of Health
Te Tumu Whakarae mō te Hauora

Hon Carmel Sepuloni

MP for Kelston

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

Minister for Auckland

Minister for Social Development and Employment

Minister for Workplace Relations and Safety

Associate Minister of Foreign Affairs (Pacific Region)



4 September 2023

Tēnā koe

New funding criteria for celebrating Waitangi Day in your community

Every year on Waitangi Day, we take time to reflect on the shared history of all cultures represented in Aotearoa New Zealand today. Waitangi Day commemorations bring our communities together to deepen and broaden our understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/The Treaty of Waitangi.

As part of the government's annual commemorations, the Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage's Commemorating Waitangi Day Fund (the Fund) is open and able to assist in bringing communities together.

Applications for the Fund are now open and close Friday 13 October 2023.

The Fund criteria has been refreshed to simplify the process for funding applicants. The changes to criteria include asking funding applicants to show how their event or activity will increase awareness and understanding of Te Tiriti, celebrate local māori stories, demonstrate meaningful local iwi or hāpu support, encourage wide community participation and meet accessibility needs of their community. I encourage you to check out the updated criteria, and contact Manatū Taonga if you need any guidance.

Everything else about the Fund remains the same, with up to \$300,000 of contestable funding available for events across the motu. Grants are usually in the region of \$5,000 - \$10,000 and support events that commemorate and raise awareness of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its signing.

This is a day that should be commemorated not only at Waitangi, where the Treaty was first signed, but throughout the country – recognising that the Treaty itself travelled and that it is part of the fabric of our entire nation.

There are many well-established community events which are treasured by the thousands of New Zealanders that attend them. New applicants are vital to ensure all New Zealanders have an opportunity to participate in such events in their local community, so I hope you can help spread awareness of the Fund to those who may have new and exciting ideas.

For more information on the Fund, the new criteria and to apply, please visit:
mch.govt.nz/funding-nz-culture/ministry-grants-awards/commemorating-waitangi-day-fund.

I look forward to hearing about the exciting events planned for Waitangi Day in 2024.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Sepuloni', with a large loop at the start and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Hon Carmel Sepuloni
Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Adoption of Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, Community Spatial Plan

Author: Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To present Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, Community Spatial Plan to Council for adoption.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond project is the development of a community spatial plan for the district. It sets out aspirations for future land use and development.
- 2.2 During 2021/2022 background research and community engagement on a discussion document was completed. The draft Community Spatial Plan was drafted from feedback received on the discussion document.

3. Consultation, submissions, and deliberation

- 3.1 Consultation on the draft Community Spatial Plan ran for 6 weeks from 9 March to 25 April 2023. An oral hearing was held in conjunction with the Annual Plan on 11 May 2023. A total of 187 submissions were received.
- 3.2 Deliberations were undertaken by the Policy/Planning Committee at their 10 August 2023 meeting. The decisions made have been incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. This includes the addition of a section for Opaea/Kaiewe, multiple changes to actions and priorities throughout the document, additional commentary, and new maps.

4. Next steps

- 4.1 The Community Spatial Plan has been prepared for Council adoption (**under separate cover**). *Note: Due to file size the document has been split into sections. Minor edits will be completed prior to adoption e.g. missing photos/translation.*
- 4.2 Following adoption, Officers will provide submitters with a response to their submission, update Council's website, and prepare an implementation plan.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications. Funding decisions for actions in the Community Spatial Plan will be made through annual or long term plan processes.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 There are no significant impacts on Council's strategic risks. The strategic risk most relevant to this item is discussed below.

Trust and confidence is tarnished

If the community feel that communication is inaccurate or that decision making does not take feedback into account, this will affect the trust that can be placed in Council. Efforts were taken to ensure consultation information reached the community including providing information through various channels and holding in-person events. Submitters were given the opportunity to speak to Council. Officers have provided analysis on all submission points raised and recommended a range of amendments to the draft document as a result. Feedback will be given to submitters when the document is finalised to demonstrate how submissions and feedback contributed to the final Community Spatial Plan.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 Mana whenua have been involved throughout the development of the Community Spatial Plan through the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti, workshops and hui with iwi, and through membership of the Advisory Group.

8. Statutory Implications

8.1 There are no statutory implications. The Community Spatial Plan is a non-statutory document.

9. Decision Making Process

9.1 In making the decisions in this report, Council has given consideration to community views. This item has high levels of significance and has been through an appropriate decision making process.

Attachments:

- 1. Part 1: Overview (under separate cover)**
- 2. Part 2: Towns Part A (under separate cover)**
- 3. Part 3: Towns Part B (under separate cover)**
- 4. Part 4: Towns Part C (under separate cover)**
- 5. Part 5: Details (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1:

That the report 'Adoption of Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, Community Spatial Plan' be received.

Recommendation 2:

That Council adopt Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, Community Spatial Plan, subject to minor amendments.

10.2 Review of Swim Centre Admission Fees

Author: Sheryl Srhoj, Manager - Community Property

Authoriser: Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This report seeks Council’s consideration to increase the Marton and Taihape Swim Centre admission fees as requested by Community Leisure Management.

2. Context

2.1 Community Leisure Management (CLM) were awarded the contract to manage the Marton and Taihape Swim Centres for a period of five (5) years from 1 October 2022 to September 2027.

2.2 As per Clause 7.4 of the Marton and Taihape Swim Centre Management Contract 1072, *“The Contractor may determine the level of admission fees provided that the charges to users of the swimming pools from 1 October 2022 shall not exceed the current charges as below. These maximum charges may be subject to a maximum increase of not more than the CPI rate during the Contract term if approved by Council in accordance with Clause 7.6. No increase will be considered before 31 May 2023. Charges for activities not covered as below shall be set at the Contractors discretion”.*

2.3 The Contractor has requested that the current admission fees be increased by 6% in line with current inflation. Below is a table showing the current admission fees along with the proposed increase.

	Current	Proposed
Adult	\$4.20	\$4.40
Child	\$3.20	\$3.40
Adult/60+	\$3.20	\$3.40
Family pass	\$15.80	\$16.80
Adult Concession 10 swims	\$40.00	\$42.40
Adult Concession 30 swims	\$112.00	\$118.80
Child/60+ Concession 10 swims	\$29.50	\$31.30
Child/60+ Concession 30 swims	\$82.00	\$87.00

- 2.4 Clause 7.6 states *“Council shall not unreasonably withhold approval for increased pool entry charges in accordance with Clause 7.4. It shall be reasonable for Council to take into account the charge for similar local authority facilities elsewhere in New Zealand when considering any review of charges.”*
- 2.5 Below are the admission fees for Splash Planet Whanganui, Makino Aquatic Centre, Feilding, and the Trust Waikato Community Pool, Taumarunui. (Note: staff at the Trust Waikato Community pool were unable to provide the fees for the concessions)

The proposed fees for the Taihape and Marton Swim Centres for the 2023/24 season are included to allow for comparison.

	Splash Centre Whanganui	Makino Aquatic Centre Feilding	Trust Waikato Community Pool Taumarunui	Proposed fees for Taihape and Marton
Adult	\$5.50	\$5.50	\$4.00	\$4.40
Child	\$4.00	\$4.50	\$3.00	\$3.40
Adult/60+	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$3.00	\$3.40
Family pass	\$15.00	\$17.00	\$50 per month	\$16.80
Adult Concession 10 swims	\$45.00	\$45.00		\$42.40
Adult Concession 30 swims	\$108.00	\$125.00		\$118.80
Child/60+ Concession 10 swims	\$30.00	Child \$36.00 60+ \$40.50		\$31.30
Child/60+ Concession 30 swims	\$81.00	Child \$100.00 60+ \$112.50		\$87.00

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 All revenue from the swimming pools is retained by the Contractor to offset their costs. There could be significant consequences for Council and the Community should the Contractor not be able to meet its costs and withdraw from this arrangement. See also ‘Statutory Implications’ below.

4. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 4.1 Should Council be unable to provide Swimming Pool services, either directly or via a Contractor, the following Strategic Risks would be impacted:
 - 4.1.1 Trust and Confidence is Tarnished

5. Mana Whenua Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct mana whenua implications.

6. Statutory Implications

- 6.1 Council includes an element of 'rating for swim centres' when setting its General Rates. There could be potential legal challenge if Council were to cease providing such services whilst it was rating for them.

7. Decision Making Process

- 7.1 This item is not considered to be significant.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1 CLM has requested Council approval for increase of admission fees.
8.2 The requested increase is in line with the CPI rate.
8.3 The proposed fees are in line with neighbouring swim centres.

Recommendation 1

That the report "Review of Swim Centre Admission Fees" be received

Recommendation 2

That Council does/does not approve an increase of 6% for the Taihape and Marton Swim Centres admission fees for the 2023-24 Season.

10.3 2023/24 Budget Adjustments**Author:** Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services**Authoriser:** Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 As for previous years, a report is presented to Council in September to recommend a range of proposed amendments to the year's budget, mainly involving budget and/or project carry forwards from the previous financial year.
- 1.2 Such projects are essentially incomplete but still required to be progressed.
- 1.3 These proposed amendments were presented to the Finance & Performance Committee meeting earlier today, for their information and discussion.

2. Context

- 2.1 For the purposes of this report, the proposed amendments to Council's 2023/24 Budget are considered in three categories:
 - i. Capital Expenditure Budgets
 - ii. Operating Expenditure Budgets
 - iii. Revenue Budgets

3. Capital Expenditure Budgets

- 3.1 There are five main types of recommended adjustment to the existing 2023/24 Capital Budget program:
 - 3.1.1 Specific items not currently budgeted
 - 3.1.2 Amendments to budget carry forwards from 2022/23
 - 3.1.3 Bringing forward capital budgets from future years
 - 3.1.4 Deferral of budgeted capital budgets to future years
 - 3.1.5 Transfer Capital Budgets to Operating Budgets

Specific Items not currently budgeted (\$4.29m)

- 3.2 In November 2022 Council approved unbudgeted Capital Expenditure of around \$5m for work associated with the Taihape/Papakai Wastewater Pump Station (the project had a budget of \$1m). \$4m of this remained unspent at 30 June 2023 and is recommended to be included in the 2023/24 budget.
- 3.3 In April 2023 Council resolved to spend around \$300k of unbudgeted capital expenditure on Scotts Ferry Stormwater pump. \$281k of this remained unspent at 30 June 2023 and is recommended to be included in the 2023/24 budget.
- 3.4 Note : at this stage there is no proposed budget amendment for the Ratana Treatment Plant. The 2023/24 capital budget for this project remains at \$1.5m

Amendments to Budget Carry Forwards from 2022/23 (\$2.19m)

- 3.5 As reported to Finance/Performance Committee in August 2023, Council incurred \$22.5m of capital expenditure in 2022/23 compared to a total capital budget of \$33.8m.
- 3.6 \$1m of the 2022/23 capital expenditure was unbudgeted (Taihape/Papakai Wastewater Pump Station). This means that \$21.5m of the \$33.8m budget was spent, resulting in \$12.3m unspent capital budget in 2022/23.
- 3.7 In developing the 2023/24 Annual Plan, Officers identified around \$8.7m of the 2022/23 capital program that they expected to be unspent at 30 June and included this amount in the 2023/24 capital program on the basis that the figure would be amended once the 2022/23 financial figures were finalised.
- 3.8 Now the 2022/23 financial figures are finalised Officers have identified a further \$2.19m (nett) of unspent 2022/23 capital budget that they request be carried forward to 2023/24.

Bringing Forward Capital Budgets from Future Years (\$228k)

- 3.9 Council’s Long Term Plan includes an Information Technology project (File Digitisation) that was budgeted over the 10 years of the LTP.
- 3.10 Officers have been able to fast track this project, producing an overall budget saving of \$234k (LTP Total Budget is \$1.1m), but this requires \$228k budget to be brought from future years.

Deferral of Capital Budgets to Future Years (\$7.75m)

- 3.11 Officers have identified two large 2023/24 capital budgets that could reasonably be expected to be incomplete at 30 June 2024. They accordingly consider it preferable to defer these budgets to 2024/25 on the basis that they will proceed with these projects during 2023/24 if possible. This would result in unbudgeted capital expenditure for 2023/24 and the amounts deferred to 2024/25 being reduced accordingly (ie nil impact overall):

Project	Current 2023/24 Capital Budget	Amount to be Deferred to 2023/24	Amended 2023/24 Capital Budget
Marton Water Strategy	\$5.94m	\$5.00m	\$0.94m
Water Supply Renewals	\$3.09m	\$2.00m	\$1.09m
Taihape Grandstand	\$0.86m*	\$0.75m	\$0.11m
Total		\$7.75m	

*note : includes \$69k of carry forward included in S3.7

Transfer Capital Budgets to Operating Budgets (400k)

- 3.12 Two projects associated with the Better Off program have resulted in two \$200k capital budgets being included in 2023/24 (TRAK Water Compliance Initiative and Town Centre Regeneration). The expenditure associated with these initiatives is now expected to take the form of operating expenditure.

Capital Budgets Summary

3.13 Summary

	\$
2023/24 Annual Plan Capital Budget	\$35.71m
Add specific items not currently budgeted	\$4.29m
Amend for carry forwards from \$2022/23	\$2.19m
Bring forward budgets from future years	\$0.23m
Defer budgets to future years	(\$7.75m)
Transfer Capital Budget to Operating	(\$0.40m)
Total	\$34.27m

4. Operational Expenditure Budgets

- 4.1 Council has a number of operating expenditure commitments in 2023/24 that currently have no budgeted. These commitments are summarised below. As can be seen these largely relate to grant income already received/to be received:

2023/24 Operational Expenditure Budget per Annual Plan	\$22.83m
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (unbudgeted grant income has associated unbudgeted operating expenditure)	\$0.32m
Emergency Works budgets, as approved by TIO	\$3.99m
Transfer of budget from Capital to Operational	\$0.40m
Other project related carry forwards from 2022/23	\$0.18m
Proposed 2023/24 Operating Expense Budget	\$27.59m

5. Revenue Budgets

- 5.1 Officers have identified the following Revenue Budgets that require amendment:

2022/23 Subsidies and Grants Income Budget per Annual Plan	\$12.95m
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Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs (see S4.1 above)	\$0.32m
Emergency Works budget (conservatively calculated at 63% of associated expenditure)	\$2.51m
Proposed 2023/24 Subsidies & Grant Income Budget	\$15.78m

Recommendation 1

That Council receives the report ‘2023/24 Budget Adjustments

Recommendation 2

That Council approves/declines [**delete one**] the proposed amendments to decrease the 2023/24 Capital Budget to \$34.27m to reflect more appropriate timing of certain key projects (noting that the future expenditure related to these projects may be brought forward to 2023/24 if practical), to include two key unbudgeted projects that have continued to 2023/24, to include prior year budgets for certain projects that were incomplete at 30 June 2023 and to reflect some budgets being more appropriately classified as operational.

Recommendation 3

That Council approves/declines [**delete one**] the increase in the Operating Expenses Budget 2022/23 to \$27.59m to reflect Council’s ongoing responsibility to continue with Emergency Repair Works, Council’s obligations regarding grants and other minor initiatives that were incomplete at 30 June 2023.

Recommendation 4

That Council approves/declines [**delete one**] the increase in the Revenue Budget 2023/24 to \$15.78m to recognise unbudgeted grant income that Council expects to receive relating to Emergency Works and Mayors Taskforce for Jobs.

10.4 Treasury Management Policy - Update

Author: Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services

Authoriser: Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide an updated Treasury Management Policy for Council approval.

2. Context

- 2.1 Council's Treasury Management Policy (TMP) was last reviewed and adopted in October 2020.
- 2.2 The TMP has been amended for the following key matters as highlighted in the attachments to this Report:
 - 2.2.1 Section 3.3 recognises that Council has become a guaranteeing member of LGFA (previously Council was an 'unrated' member); and
 - 2.2.2 Sections 3.4 and 3.5 recognise that two of the Borrowing Covenants have changed as a result of the change referred to in S2.2.1 of this Report
 - 2.2.3 Sections 3.4 and 3.5 have had the Examples updated to reflect more relevant financial figures
 - 2.2.4 Section 3.5 had had the reference to a 'suggested bank balance' removed. Officers regularly monitor cash flow requirements and manage the bank balance as appropriate (and report this to each Finance and Performance Committee meeting)
 - 2.2.5 Sections 3.6 and 3.7 have been updated to reflect current arrangements
 - 2.2.6 Section 3.9 has been removed as it is no longer relevant
 - 2.2.7 Minor amendments have been made to Sections 4.5 onwards
- 2.3 Council's Risk and Assurance Committee reviewed the Treasury Management Policy as amended for the above changes at its September 2023 meeting and suggested two further amendments:
 - 2.3.1 Include reference to having a staggered 'maturity date' for Council's different debt parcels; and
 - 2.3.2 Include reference to Council's Foreign Exchange Exposure being essentially limited to risk with sourcing procurement from overseas.

Note: Council consulted on becoming a guaranteeing member of the LGFA when consulting on its Long Term Plan ('LTP') 2021/31 and subsequently became a guaranteeing member in June 2022. Council conducted a detailed risk analysis and cost/benefit analysis of becoming a guaranteeing member of LGFA when considering its LTP 2021/31.

- 2.4 These two items have been included in the attached draft Policy in sections 3.6 and 3.9.1.

2.5 The attached draft TMP was further considered at Council's Finance and Performance Committee in September 2023.

3. Financial Implications

3.1 The adoption of an inappropriate Treasury Management Policy could have significant negative impacts for Council's financial sustainability.

4. Impact on Strategic Risks

4.1 Refer S3.1 above.

5. Mana Whenua Implications

5.1 No significant direct implications have been identified.

6. Statutory Implications

6.1 The Treasury Management Policy incorporates two statutory policies (being the Liability Management Policy and the Investment Policy). These statutory policies are required under S102 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Attachments:

1. **Amended Treasury Management Policy 2023** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That Council approves the amended Treasury Management Policy.

Financial SERVICES

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY

Date of adoption: 22 October 2020

Resolution number: 20/RDC/391 Date by

which review

must be completed: September 2023

Relevant legislation: LGA 2002

Statutory/Policy: Statutory

Included in the LTP: Indirectly
(via Finance Strategy)



Making this place home.

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY

Date of adoption by Council/Committee	22 October <u>September</u> 2023 0
Resolution Number	20/RDC/391
Date by which review must be completed	September 202 6 <u>3</u>
Relevant Legislation	LGA 2002
Statutory or Operational Policy	Statutory
Included in the LTP	Indirectly (via Finance Strategy)

1 Introduction

Rangitikei District Council’s (“Council’s”) *Treasury Management Policy* consists primarily of two statutory policies:

1. Liability Management Policy and
2. Investment Policy

These statutory policies:

- form the key elements of, and provide, the framework under which Council operates its borrowing and investment activities; and
- are required under the Local Government Act 2002 (“LGA2002”) (Section 102 : Sections 104 and Section 105 outline the required content of these policies).

2 Overview

The key objectives of Council’s treasury activities are to protect the interests of, and ensure fairness between, Council’s current and future ratepayers.

In doing so, Council will apply procedures and controls to:

- ensure funds are always available to meet both planned and unplanned (but not extreme) levels of expenditure; and
- prudently manage the borrowing costs and investment returns that impact Council’s operational budgets; and
- ensure that all borrowings, investments and incidental financing arrangements comply with relevant legislation; and
- prudently manage the risk and volatility associated with Council’s treasury activities; and

- safeguard Council’s assets; and
- provide appropriate treasury reporting; and
- ensure the key principles of Council’s Treasury Management Policy are kept current via regular reviews and reporting.

Generally, Council will:

- avoid speculative type investments; and
- avoid investments in organisations whose activities are not consistent with Council’s social, environmental, ethical or cultural values; and
- maintain a ‘risk averse’ approach to its treasury activities.

3 Liability Management Policy

3.1 Introduction

The Liability Management Policy applies to the following liability arrangements (ie borrowing arrangements) with external parties:

- to fund Council’s capital works program, especially to provide funds for new (as opposed to replacement) assets. Council views the use of debt for these purposes as an appropriate and efficient mechanism for promoting intergenerational equity between current and future ratepayers;
- for specific one-off projects, including those caused by an emergency situation, or new levels of service that may arise from time to time

All other council liabilities (eg hire purchase, credit transactions, deferred payment and lease arrangements) are managed in the course of council’s day-to-day operations.

Council’s borrowing requirements will be clearly identified in its Long Term Plan and Annual Plans. Amounts not included in the Long Term Plan or Annual Plan can only be borrowed if approved by council resolution.

3.2 Requirements

S104 of LGA2002 states that the Liability Management Policy must state Council’s policies regarding its management of borrowings and other liabilities, including:

- interest rate exposure; and
- liquidity; and
- credit exposure; and
- debt repayment.

3.3 Borrowing Covenants

The first two of these four considerations (interest rate exposure and liquidity) are most effectively governed with the use of borrowing covenants. In determining what constitutes a prudent level of borrowings, Council will apply the Local Government Funding Agency covenants for ~~unrated- 'guaranteeing member' councils as at 30 June 2020. An unrated- A 'guaranteeing member' council is one whose borrowings from LGFA are below above \$20m- and who is not a guaranteeing member of LGFA. These covenants are more conservative than the covenants that apply for rated councils.~~

Council's Long Term Plan and Annual Plans show the planned future levels of Council debt. Although future cost of servicing debt is subject to future market conditions, the Long Term Plan will incorporate a reasonable estimate of these costs. Debt levels for each year within the Long Term Plan and for each Annual Plan must comply with the covenants in this Policy.

3.4 Interest Rate Exposure

Covenant	Limit
Net interest/total revenue	< 20%
Net interest/annual rates income	< 25 30%
<p>Notes:</p> <p>Net interest is total annual interest cost and finance costs less interest earned</p> <p>Total revenue is cash income from rates, government grants and subsidies, user charges, interest, investment income but excludes vested assets and developer contributions</p> <p>The following examples have been provided to assist with 'giving this covenant some context'. These examples assume:</p> <p><u>Example</u></p> <p>Interest rate at 53%</p> <p>Interest earned \$200kzero</p> <p>Total annual revenue \$5530m</p> <p>Annual rates income \$3524m</p> <p><u>Debt \$70m</u></p> <p><u>Interest paid \$3.5m</u></p> <p><u>Interest earned \$0.2m</u></p> <p><u>Net interest \$3.3m</u></p> <p>Net interest/total revenue (maximum is 20%) : <u>(\$3.3m/\$55m) = 6%</u></p>	

ITEM 10.4 ATTACHMENT 1

Example 1 : Debt of \$3m: $\frac{[(3m \times 3\%) - 0]}{30m} = 0.3\%$ Example 2 :-
Debt of \$40m: $\frac{[(40m \times 3\%) - 0]}{30m} = 4\%$

Net interest/annual rates income (maximum is ~~25~~30%) : $\frac{(\$3.3m/\$35m)}{1} = 9.4\%$

Example 1 : Debt of \$3m: $\frac{[(3m \times 3\%) - 0]}{24m} = 0.4\%$ Example 2 :-
Debt of \$40m: $\frac{[(40m \times 3\%) - 0]}{24m} = 5\%$

Council’s finance department will primarily manage the impact of interest rate risk by accessing only fixed interest rate borrowings. Council approval will be obtained should non fixed interest rate borrowings be sought.

3.5 Liquidity

Covenant	Limit
Net debt/total revenue	<175% 280%
The example information in S3.4 (Total Revenue of \$ 3055 m and Debt of \$ 4070 m) and an assumed Bank Balance of \$10m would provide a Net Debt/Total Revenue ratio of 133 109%.	
External debt plus committed loan facilities plus liquid investments divided by external debt	>110%
The example information in S3.4 (Debt of \$70m) and an assumed Bank Balance of \$10m would provide a ratio of 114%.	
The following examples have been provided to assist with ‘giving this covenant some context’. These examples assume	
Committed Loan Facilities \$zero	
Cash at Bank \$2million	
Term Deposits \$4million	
Example 1 : Debt of \$3m would give a Liquidity Ratio of $(3+0+2+4)/3 = 300\%$	
Example 2 : Debt of \$40m would give a Liquidity Ratio of $(40+0+2+4)/40 = 115\%$	

In addition, Council will aim to maintain a current bank balance of between \$1m and \$3m, using debt and an interest earning deposit account as required.

3.6 Credit Exposure

At the time of approving this Treasury Management Policy, Council had one parcel of debt but expected to increase this number during the next Long Term Plan.

Council will ensure that each of its ~~first seven~~ parcels of debt:

- ~~matures in financial years different from other parcels of debt; and~~
- is likely to provide Council with sufficient finance so that no further debt will be required for at least ~~63~~ months; and
- is included in a report to Finance and Performance Committee; and
- ~~considers the cost/benefit of being fixed or floating with regards to other existing parcels of debt and market conditions; and~~
- ~~has a maturity date set such that no more than two parcels of debt mature in the same six month period.~~

3.7 Debt Repayment

Council will repay borrowings when, or before, they fall due in accordance with the applicable borrowing arrangement by refinancing or from surplus general funds.

2

3.8 Management and Reporting

A summary of Council’s debt portfolio will be provided to each Finance and Performance Committee ~~on a quarterly basis~~ and Risk and Assurance Committee.

This quarterly reporting will include commentary regarding Council’s debt position compared to the position included in the Annual Plan and Ten Year Plan and compliance with its borrowing covenants.

3.9 Other Considerations

~~3.9.1 The New Zealand LGFA~~

~~Should Council borrow more than \$20m from LGFA and/or become a guaranteeing member of LGFA, borrowings from the LGFA may involve Council:~~

- ~~• contributing a portion of its borrowing back to LGFA as an equity contribution, for example as Borrower Notes; and~~
- ~~• providing guarantees of the indebtedness of other local authorities to LGFA and of the LGFA itself; and~~
- ~~• contributing additional equity or subordinated debt to LGFA if required; and~~
- ~~• securing its borrowings from LGFA and other obligations of the LGFA with a charge over RDC’s rates and rates revenue; and~~
- ~~• subscribing for shares and uncalled capital in LGFA.~~

~~3.9.2~~ 3.9.1 Foreign Exchange Exposure

Council will ordinarily source its borrowings from bank debt, LGFA or from domestic capital markets (fixed rate bonds, medium term notes, floating rate notes and commercial paper). It is not envisaged that Council will have any foreign exchange exposure other than standard commercial risk that exists should Council source procurement from overseas. Council approval will be sought should such exposure, of \$1,000 or more, be identified.

~~3.9.3~~ 3.9.2 Other Guarantees

Apart from LGFA, Council may provide financial guarantees to local organisations, groups or bodies for recreational and community purposes.

The total value of these non-LGFA guarantees will be capped as per the following covenant:

Covenant	Limit
Non-LGFA Guarantees as % of total annual rates	3%

3.9.43.9.3 Other Liabilities

Other RDC liabilities will be managed in the course of RDC’s day-to-day operations.

4 Investment Policy

4.1 Introduction

Council will generally hold two types of investment:

1. commercial and
2. strategic

Commercial investments typically arise where council invests surplus funds with the primary objective of generating a commercial return whilst exposing council to an appropriate level of risk. Council, like most public authorities:

- recognises that holding commercial investments should reduce the reliance on rates, and
- has a focus on investments that have a relatively low risk, and
- recognises that lower returns are generally associated with the lower risk investments that will form part of its investment portfolio, and
- will generally not hold equity investments for purely commercial reasons.

Strategic investments typically arise where council invests funds in an opportunity where the primary objective is to generate a social, community or similar benefit or for legislative reasons. These investments are generally expected to return a lower financial return to council than commercial investments.

Council’s investment plans will be clearly identified in its Long Term Plan and Annual Plans.

4.2 Requirements

S105 of LGA2002 states that the Investment Policy must state Council’s policies regarding its investments, including:

- the mix of investments, and
- the acquisition of new investments, and
- an outline of the procedures by which investments are managed and reported to the local authority and
- an outline of how risks associated with investments are assessed and managed.

4.3 Mix of Investments

Council’s investments will typically be in the form of:

- equity and other shareholding interests - these may include holding financial interests in LGFA, Council Controlled Organisations and other strategic investment opportunities; or

- property, including land, buildings and ground leases; or
- forestry investments; or
- financial investments.

Council will not invest in initiatives that are not consistent with its social, environmental, cultural or ethical values.

4.4 Acquisition of New Investments

New equity and forestry investments (and disposals thereof), not included in an Annual Plan or Long Term Plan, require prior council approval.

The placing of surplus cash and working capital in interest-bearing bank deposit accounts is regarded as business as usual activity and, for these purposes, is regarded as a banking activity and not an investing activity.

4.5 Management and Reporting (including Risk Management)

[Where Council holds material Investments, a](#) summary of Council’s investment portfolio and its performance will be provided to Finance and Performance Committee on a quarterly basis.

This quarterly reporting will include commentary regarding investment returns compared to the amounts included in the Annual Plan and Ten Year Plan.

Where Council holds financial investments it may use mechanisms such as interest rate swaps, interest rate options and forward rate agreements to manage interest rate risk. In doing so, Council will seek external advice as required.

5 Other

5.1 Review

The Treasury Management Policy shall be reviewed by Council at least once every three years. The Local Government Act [2002 Amendment Act 2010 \(S102\)](#) states that Council does not need to go through the special consultative process to amend the Liability Management Policy and the Investment Policy.

5.2 Reporting - Summary

- Council’s Long Term Plan and Annual Plans show the planned future levels of Council debt and investment [\(S3.3 and S4.1\)](#)
- Each new parcel of debt will be reported to Council’s Finance and Performance Committee [\(S3.6\)](#)

- A summary of Council’s investment portfolio and debt position will be provided to Finance and Performance Committee ~~on a quarterly basis~~. This ~~quarterly~~ reporting will include commentary regarding investment returns and debt position compared to the amounts included in the Annual Plan and Ten Year Plan ~~(S3.8 and S4.5)~~
 - Council’s Treasury function will formally report any concerns relating to Council’s investment portfolio or debt position to ~~Audit and Risk~~ and Assurance Committee and to Council.
- 5.3 All delegations exercised under this Policy need to comply with the requirements of the Delegations Register and/or any sub-delegations that may be made by the CEO. All such sub-delegations made by the CEO must be clearly recorded.

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Better Off - Town Centre Revitalisation - Phase 1

Author: Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner

Authoriser: Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide Council with an update on phase 1 of the Town Centre Revitalisation projected funded via Better Off and seek an Elected Member Lead for the project.

2. Background

- 2.1 Council applied for, and was approved funding through the Better Off fund, of \$200,000 to deliver town centre regeneration projects for Marton, Taihape and Bulls. Marton has a project budget of \$80,000, while Bulls and Taihape have a project budget of \$60,000 each.
- 2.2 The proposed project builds from the existing town centre plans, and community spatial planning, to work alongside our community to implement projects. Feedback from Council during the development of the funding application was to ensure the funding was used to deliver tangible projects.
- 2.3 Investment in our town centres is a priority for our communities, with recent engagement in 2022 through Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond, the Rangitikei Community Spatial Plan confirming town centre revitalisation as a key priority.

3. Project approach

- 3.1 Officers have established a cross-departmental project group to deliver the project. The project is planned to be implemented in three phases.
 - Phase 1: Marton (2023/24)
 - Phase 2: Bulls (2024/25)
 - Phase 3: Taihape (2025/26)
- 3.2 The following draft project objectives have been identified for Marton and will be reviewed alongside stakeholder engagement:
 - Increase the appeal of the Marton town centre.
 - Enhance accessibility and safety of the Marton town centre.
 - Provide spaces for people to spend more time in the town centre and encourage social interaction.
 - Provide opportunities for community engagement in the development and implementation of the project.
 - Encourages storytelling through art, history, and culture.
- 3.3 Phase 1 of the project is planned to be implemented using agile approaches, including tactical urbanism. The purpose of these approaches is to increase deliverables and reduce delays/barriers. Agile approaches go through a process of identifying the

vision/objectives, brainstorming ideas, choosing the deliverable, and then implementing the deliverable. Tactical urbanism is the term used to describe ‘urban interventions’ that create more ‘people friendly’ streets and spaces. Tactical urbanism projects often start as interim or pop-up in nature to test or trial ideas in ways that are low-risk, low-cost and low-commitment.

- 3.4 An Elected Member Lead is proposed to be appointed for phase 1 of the project. The Elected Member Lead will be included in Project Group discussions and in supporting the project’s implementation.

4. Next Steps

- 4.1 The next step is to undertake stakeholder engagement. The purpose of this engagement will be to introduce the project, discuss stakeholder aspirations, project ideas and areas for collaboration.
- 4.2 The project was introduced with the Youth Council at their 18 September 2023 meeting.
- 4.3 Specific projects will then be recommended by the Project Group by assessing each project against the project objectives and approved by the Project Sponsor.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The project is fully funded via the Better Off fund.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 The following strategic risks are relevant:
 - Trust and confidence is tarnished: It is possible, if Council does not successfully deliver this project, community trust could be impacted.
 - Insufficient capability and capacity to fulfil agreed commitments: There is a risk staff involved in the Project Group will be stretched to deliver this project. However, the Project Group is fully committed to delivering this project given the significant benefits it will provide the community.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

- 7.1 There are no mana whenua implications. The project will be discussed with mana whenua early.

8. Statutory Implications

- 8.1 There are no statutory implications.

9. Decision Making Process

- 9.1 This item is not considered to be significant.

Recommendation 1

That the report ‘Better Off - Town Centre Revitalisation - Phase 1’ be received.

ITEM 11.1

Recommendation 2

That *[insert councillor]* is the Elected Member Lead for the Better Off Town Centre Revitalisation Project for Marton.

11.2 Project Management Office Report - September 2023

Author: Adina Foley, Group Manager-Capital Projects

Authoriser: Kevin Ross, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

1.1 A tabled report will be provided prior to the meeting.

Recommendation

That the report 'Project Management Office Report - September 2023' be received.

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Committee and Board minutes are attached for Council's receipt. These are under separate cover due to size.

Attachments:

1. BCC-12 Jul 23 [↓](#) (under separate cover)
2. MCC-09 Aug 23 [↓](#) (under separate cover)
3. PPL-10 Aug 23 [↓](#) (under separate cover)
4. FP-31 Aug 23 (under separate cover)

Recommendation

That the following minutes are received:

- Bulls Community Committee- 12 July 23
- Marton Community Committee- 09 August 23
- Policy and Planning Committee- 10 August 23
- Finance and Performance- 31 August 23

13 Recommendations from Committees

13.1 Recommendations from the Hunterville Community Committee

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To receive and discuss the recommendation from the Hunterville Community Committee that Council reinstate the annual allocation of \$1 per rateable property to their terms of reference.

2. Officer Comment

2.1 The reason it was proposed that an annual amount, in place of the current formula of \$1 per rateable value be used, was the change in the ward boundaries altered the amounts allocated to each community committee as per this table below:

Area	2022/23	Number of properties	Difference
Turakina Community Committee	753	494	-259
Marton Community Committee	3,550	3,330	-220
Hunterville Community Committee	889	901	+12
Bulls Community Committee	1,301	1,502	+201

2.2 Staff proposed (to each community committee) that in order to keep the amounts similar to the previous allocations for 2023/24 year, the amounts could be:

Turakina - \$800

Marton - \$3500

Hunterville - \$900

Bulls – \$1300

2.3 The suggestion to each community committee was also for the committees to consider whether they wanted to request an increase from the 2024/25 year and this be done as a submission through the Long Term Plan.

2.4 If Council agrees to the Hunterville Community Committees recommendation the previous approach for funding would have to be reverted to the previous formula for all community committees, to be consistent.

Recommendation from the Hunterville Community Committee:

That Council reinstate annual allocation of \$1 per rateable property to terms of reference.

13.2 Recommendations from Taihape Community Board**Author:** Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor**Authoriser:** Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy & Planning**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 To receive and discuss the recommendations from the Taihape Community Board from their workshop and subsequent meeting held on the 09 August 2023.
- 1.2 Mr Peter-Kipling Arthur will be attendance at the public forum session to provide further information relating to the Boards recommendations.

2. Officer Comment

- 2.1 Staff will listen to Mr Kipling-Arthur and assess all the requests, then provide feedback and a response to the Taihape Community Board when resources allow.

Attachments:

1. **Recommendations from the Taihape Community Board** [↓](#)

Recommendations from the Taihape Community Board:

1. That the Taihape Community Board strongly recommend that Council engage with Waka Kotahi over the issues and possible solutions raised in Items One, Six Seven and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and Management summary as discussed at their July workshop.
2. That Council staff consult with the Taihape Community Board over the feasibility of actions requested in Items Two, Three, Four, Five and Eight of the Traffic, Safety and management summary as discussed at their July workshop.

Taihape Community Board Workshop July DRAFT REPORT/

Topic Traffic Safety and management in the area:

Summary of discussion

ITEM Number	ISSUE	Description	Solutions	Organization responsible for action
One	Gretna corner Give Way signage	Hautapu St. give way sign has been removed for traffic heading north to Spooners hill past the Gretna. The road markings are not clearly marked creating danger for traffic from all directions. Especially in the wet	Repaint the road markings clearly and repaint frequently as traffic will wear the paint away.	Waka Kotahi/Land Transport RDC
Two	Disability Parks in town. Are these sufficient	Sufficient numbers exist and markings seem ok. How do we discourage illegal parking.	Vertically placed signs at an appropriate height, e.g. approx. 1.5m at kerb front of each park. Add Blue marking as detailed in addenda 2	RDC to implement
Three	The Gardens at the corners of intersections on Hautapu St	In heavy rains the bark and mulch from the gardens flows into the gutters and can block the drains	Possibly a low garden edging along the pavement side of the garden to prevent this. Investigate the use of a local contractor to keep stormwater sumps/grates clear	RDC in consultation with the shops opposite the gardens.

Four	Motorhome parking in Hautapu St	Oversize homes, sometimes with bikes etc. at the rear pose an issue for other parked vehicles trying to back out of parks and proceed on Hautapu St	Use signage from the RWC to encourage Motorhomes to park on Huia, Tui and Kuku Sts plus open up extra parking at the Outback by marking parking for motorhomes	RDC and TCB
Five	Overnight Truck parking in Kokako St	Noise and disruption for residents from late in the evening to early morning	Should lessen once the area behind Kokako St Hall and the new build is sealed and completed. Signage directing trucks to this improved area.	RDC and TCB to monitor and liaise with residents
Six	Traffic Speed	Residents have spoken of the speed of some traffic and of the heavy streams on long weekends as a concern in Hautapu St and Mataroa Rd including access to PuriPuri St	The TCB seeks to have the 50K area on the Mataroa Rd extended to Bellis Park and the 70k from Jones Road to Bellis Park. Mataroa Rd was 50k previously and should be again.	Waka Kotahi/Land Transport RDC
Seven	Pedestrian Safety	Concern was raised about the safety and placement of the two pedestrian crossings on Hautapu St. There exists a range of solutions, but the meeting is only putting forward the most achievable and cost effective.	Repainting of the crossings with the use of red colouring between the white markings and both before and after on both lanes to provide a colour block as clear visual reminder of pedestrians. Keeping the vegetation trimmed to below 1.2m to provide improved	Waka Kotahi/Land Transport RDC

			visibility for both traffic and pedestrians. Repair and maintenance of the Belisha beacons so they are <u>all working</u> . And flash for the whole 24 hours. Possible addition of LED signage to the beacon poles.	
Eight	Marae Signage	Raising the safety of these areas by placement of the Marae signage as recommended by Waka Kotahi/Land Transport	Winiata Marae Opaea Marae Moawhango Marae [in place] Plus others to be confirmed.	RDC Waka Kotahi/Land Transport Mokia Patea Trust. Discussions with the local Iwi and Hapu re their thoughts.

14 Public Excluded

Resolution to Exclude the Public

The meeting went into public excluded session [enter time](#)

Recommendation

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1. Public Excluded Council Meeting - 31 August 2023
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Marton Rail Hub - Project Update Report
4. Marton Rail Hub – July 2023 Update Report: Correction
5. Taihape Area School - location for decant update
6. Road Maintenance Procurement Strategy
7. Rātana Pā Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget increase and direct procurement

The general subject matter 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 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
14.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 31 August 2023	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 31 August meeting.	S48(1)(a)
14.2 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
14.3 - Marton Rail Hub - Project Update Report	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)
14.4 - Marton Rail Hub – July 2023 Update Report: Correction	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)
14.5 - Taihape Area School - location for decant update	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(c)(ii) - Public Interest	s48(1)(a)(i)

14.6 - Road Maintenance Procurement Strategy	s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
14.7 - Rātana Pā Wastewater Treatment Plant - Budget increase and direct procurement	s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

15 Open Meeting