

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 11 December 2025

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Rangitīkei District Council

46 High Street

Marton

Chair: HWTM Andy Watson

Deputy Chair: Cr Dave Wilson

Membership: Cr Diana Baird

Cr Alan Buckendahl

Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Sandra Field
Cr John Hainsworth
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Graeme O'Fee
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Paul Sharland

Cr Jeff Wong

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Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitīkei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 11 December 2025 at 1.00pm.

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AGENDA

- 1 Welcome / Prayer
- 2 Apologies
- 3 Public Forum

No Public Forum

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 27 November 2025 are attached.

Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 27 November 2025

At item 10.1 Taihape Grandstand – Update and Proposed Next Steps that the Amendment became the substantive motion Resolved minute number 25/RDC/001

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 November 2025 **as amended** 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



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UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 27 November 2025

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Rangitīkei District Council

46 High Street

Marton

Present HWTM Andy Watson

Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland
Cr Alan Buckendahl
Cr John Hainsworth
Cr Sandra Field
Cr Graeme O'Fee

In attendance Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

Ms Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager - Corporate Services

Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy Mr Johan Cullis, Group Manager – Regulatory and Emergency Management Mr Darryn Black, Acting Group Manager – Assets, Infrastructure and Projects

Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager

Mr Eswar Ganapathi, Senior Project Manager Ms Sophia Sykes, Communications Manager

Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting at 1.00pm

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number

25/RDC/286

That the apologies be received from Cr Raukawa, Cr Baird and Cr Hiroa.

Cr P Sharland/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

3 Public Forum

<u>Denise Pio - Aspiring Leaders Forum in August</u> – a tabled document was provided.

Ms Pio spoke of her attendance at the Aspiring Leaders Forum and how valueable this was.

Gill Duncan – Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee – a tabled document was provided

Ms Duncan advocated that the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee (TRGC) have a community led agreement with Council to support the Taihape Grandstand restoration.

Katie Deere – Rangitikei Netball

Councillors noted that a letter was received from Ms Deere.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/287

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 October 2025 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 P Sharland/Cr S Field. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Item 2 – Timeline Marton Water Strategy

Councillors requested that this timeline for the Marton Water Strategy be provided at the first Assets/Infrastructure meeting.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/288

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

Cr F Dalgety/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - November 2025

The Mayor noted that central government is bringing in a lot of new legislation. This includes the recent announcement about regional councils, and that the rates-capping legislation is also expected before Christmas.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/289

That the Mayor's Report – November 2025 be received.

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/290

That the Community Volunteer Awards 2026 do take place in the scaled back format as 2023.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - November 2025

Submissions

There is significant consultation expected over the Christmas period, requiring responses within a short timeframe. Mrs Gordon noted that the Council will take the opportunity to collaborate with neighbouring councils on the upcoming submissions where possible.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/291

That the report Chief Executive's Report – November 2025 be received.

Cr J Hainsworth/Cr J Wong. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Taihape Grandstand - Update and Proposed Next Steps

Elected members commented that the upgrade works would be completed by the community led project and then council would take over ongoing maintenance work.

It was noted that further information is still required regarding the agreement between the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee (TGRC) and Council. After the meeting adjourned at item 10.5 Elected Members' Allowances and Recovery of Expenses Policy Council returned to this report item to confirm the final two resolutions.

It was raised that Cr Hiroa was not in attendance at the meeting and that she may want to be the portfolio holder for this project and therefore this recommendation was left to lie.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/292

That the report Taihape Grandstand – Update and Proposed Next Steps be received.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/293

That Council agrees the Taihape Grandstand project be a Community Led, Council Owned Facilities Upgrade, under the guidance of the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/294

That Council approves the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee to engage Copeland Associates to continue design work on the Grandstand, and that no further quotes be sought.

Cr J Wong/Cr D Wilson. Carried Against Cr Field and Cr Dalgety

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/295

That Council records setting aside Council's Procurement and Contract Management policy in regards to Resolved minute number 25/RDC/294.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

Motion

That Council agrees that the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee determine how the remaining Council funds are allocated toward refurbishment and restoration of the Taihape Grandstand, and that Council does make payments upon TGRC authorisation.

HWTM/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Amendment

That Council agrees that the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee determine how the remaining Council funds are allocated toward refurbishment and restoration of the Taihape Grandstand, and that Council does make payments upon TGRC authorisation, subject to confirmation of final approval of the TGRC agreement which includes roles, responsibilities and procurement and payment processes.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/297

That Council agrees that the Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee determine how the remaining Council funds are allocated toward refurbishment and restoration of the Taihape Grandstand, and that Council does make payments upon TGRC authorisation, subject to confirmation of final approval of the TGRC agreement which includes roles, responsibilities and procurement and payment processes.

HWTM/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/298

That Council is a final funder for the Taihape Grandstand.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Left to lie -

That Cr ______ be allocated the Grandstand Project as one of the portfolios for the Assets / Infrastructure Committee.

10.2 Outdoor Courts - Bulls, Marton, Taihape

Ms Prince introduced the report, noting that Rangitikei Netball have been in contact regarding the number and layout of courts. While they would prefer four courts in the long term, they have recommended retaining the current layout in the short term as described in the Thrive report but noting that Rangitikei Netball still request a plexipave surface.

Council noted concerns regarding the suitability of surface options, leading Council to request additional information and quotes in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/299

That the report Outdoor Courts – Bulls, Marton, Taihape and the tabled reports be received.

Cr S Field/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/300

That Council confirms the ownership status of the outdoor courts at Bulls Domain, Centennial Park (Marton), and Memorial Park (Taihape) as Council-owned facilities for which Council holds on-going maintenance responsibility.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/301

That Council retain the courts in their current configuration at Centennial Park, Marton.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/302

That Council resolves that the courts resurfacing project at Centennial Park, Marton, will be delivered as a Community Led / Council Owned Facilities project, alongside Rangitīkei Netball subjection to completion of an application, agreement on roles and responsibilities, and confirmation of sufficient funding, prior to work commencing;

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/303

That Council requests additional information and quotes for acrylic surface overlays and cushioned hardcourt systems in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/304

That Council agrees to allocate a budget of up to \$50,000 (excluding GST), as the final funder, for the resurfacing of the Marton netball courts to be funded from the General Purpose Reserves (Capital Works).

Cr A Buckendahl/HWTM Carried

10.3 Committee Structure and Membership for the 2025-28 Triennium

Council moved through each of these appointments noting that there were apologies from some councillors at the meeting and it will be confirmed what committees they would like to be a part of after the meeting.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/305

That the report Committee Structure and Membership for the 2025-28 Triennium be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/306

That for the 2025-28 triennium, the following elected members are members of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee:

Crs Dalgety, O'Fee, Hainsworth, Wilson, Buckendahl, Sharland, Wong, Field.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/307

That for the 2025-28 triennium, the following elected members are members of the Finance/Performance Committee:

Crs Dalgety, Wilson, Sharland, Wong.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/308

That for the 2025-28 triennium, the following elected members are members of the Community Grants Committee, a sub-committee of the Finance/Performance Committee:

Crs Dalgety, Sharland, Wong, HWTM.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/309

That for the 2025-28 triennium, the following elected members are members of the Policy/Planning Committee:

Crs Hainsworth, Wilson, Buckendahl, Wong, Field.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/310

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr Field be appointed as the alternate liaison to the Youth Council.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/311

That for the 2025-28 triennium, His Worship the Mayor, Cr Wong, and Cr Buckendahl be appointed to the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee (noting these members will sit alongside three members appointed by Te Rōpū Ahi Kā).

Cr S Field/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/312

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr O'Fee be appointed to the Santoft Domain Management Committee and Cr Sharland as alternative.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/313

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr Dalgety be appointed to the McIntyre Reserve Management Committee and Cr Wong as alternative.

Cr J Hainsworth/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/314

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr O'Fee be appointed to the Bulls Committee and Cr Sharland as alternative.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/315

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr Wilson be appointed to the Marton Community Committee and Cr Hainsworth as alternative.

HWTM/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/316

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr Dalgety be appointed to the Hunterville Committee and Cr Buckendahl as alternative.

Cr P Sharland/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/317

That for the 2025-28 triennium Cr Sharland be appointed to the Turakina Community Committee and Cr Field as alternative.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/318

That the Terms of Reference for the Policy/Planning Committee be adopted.

Cr J Wong/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/319

That the Terms of Reference for the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee be adopted.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/320

That the Terms of Reference for the Santoft Domain Management Committee and the McIntyre Reserve Management Committee be adopted.

Cr P Sharland/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/321

That the Terms of Reference for the Community Committees (Marton, Bulls, Hunterville, Turakina) be adopted.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/322

That Council appoints Phil Harre to replace Chris Renshaw on the Four Regions Trust.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

10.4 Remuneration for Councillors in the 2025-28 Triennium

The Mayor noted that the workload for deputy chair roles for committees is expected to be comparable to that of councillors who hold portfolio responsibilities, and as such, no additional remuneration is proposed for the role, but an increase instead to the base rate.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/323

That the report Remuneration for Councillors in the 2025-28 Triennium be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/324

That Council recommends the following proposal to the Remuneration Authority for the remuneration for councillors for the 2025-28 triennium:

Deputy Mayor/Chair Assets/Infrastructure Committee: \$49,585

Chair Finance/Performance Committee: \$42,589

Chair Policy/Planning Committee: \$42,589

• Base Rate: \$34,585

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

10.5 Elected Members' Allowances and Recovery of Expenses Policy

Ms Gray noted that the amendment of the policy was in relation to the update of the credit card sign off process.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/325

That the report Elected Members' Allowances and Recovery of Expenses Policy be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/326

That the Elected Members' Allowances and Recovery of Expenses Policy be amended and adopted.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

The meeting adjourned at 2.56pm and returned to the meeting at 3.09pm. Council moved back to the Taihape Grandstand recommendations.

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Project Updates Report - October 2025

Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation

Mrs Gordon advised that the national wastewater standards have now been approved. A report outlining the implications for the wastewater projects will be presented at a future Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Marton Water Strategy

Councillors were advised that stress testing of the bore is currently underway, with officers assessing a range of scenarios that could affect the results.

Marton Swim Centre

Councillors provided feedback on the proposed roof design with some councillors noting concerns that it may result in excessive heat during the summer months.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/327

That the report Project Updates Report – October 2025 be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

11.2 Finance Snapshot - October 2025

Ms Macdonald provided an overview of the Finance Snapshot.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/328

That the report Finance Snapshot - October 2025 be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr P Sharland. Carried

11.3 Statement of Service Provision 3 Month Report: July 2025 - September 2025

Council noted that the section for water supply in the district did not meet compliance criteria. Mrs Gordon responded that this is primarily due to data interruption.

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/329

That the report 'Statement of Service Provision 3 Month Report: July 2025 – September 2025' be received.

Cr S Field/Cr J Wong. Carried

12 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session at 3.50pm

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 25/RDC/330

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

- 1. Cross-boundary wall at 305 Broadway, Marton alternate option
- 2. Sale Agreement and Development Agreement for 304-318 Broadway, Marton
- 3. Taihape Grandstand Request for Payment
- 4. Tender recommendation Report Three Waters capital delivery

5. Public Excluded Resolutions

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						
12.1 - Cross-boundary wall at 305 Broadway, Marton - alternate option	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations.	s48(1)(a)(i)						
	s7(2)(a) - Privacy							
	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position							
	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities							
	s7(2)(i) – Negotiations							
12.2 - Sale Agreement and Development Agreement for 304-318 Broadway, Marton	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations.	s48(1)(a)(i)						
	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position							
	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities							
	s7(2)(i) – Negotiations							
12.3 - Taihape Grandstand - Request for Payment	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations.	s48(1)(a)(i)						
	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position							
12.4 - Tender recommendation Report - Three Waters capital delivery	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations.	s48(1)(a)(i)						
	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities							
12.5 - Public Excluded Resolutions	To consider previous public excluded decisions and bring these into the open.	s48(1)(a)(i)						
	s7(2)(a) - Privacy							
	s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position							
	s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities							

 s7(2)(i) – Negotiations	

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 F Dalgety/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

13 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session at 4.34pm

Resolved minute number

25/RDC/344

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

25/RDC/331 - 25/RDC/343

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

The meeting closed at 4.34pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 December 2025.

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7 Mayor's Report

7.1 Mayor's Report - December 2025

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

Good afternoon

Council is starting to wind down a little towards Christmas, however there is still so much happening and crucial decisions to be made. The new Councillors' commitment to workshops, training and meetings throughout the district has been incredible and I thank them.

Government continues to make many significant changes with the promise of more to come before Christmas. Cynically, I would suggest that the changes made before Christmas, especially for those that need consultation, is a deliberate ploy to put them out now so that the consultation period includes the holiday break. There are a number of things I wish to comment on and hopefully I will know more as legislation is being drafted allowing me to expand on later.

- 1. Changes to Regional Councils for some time several Government ministers and officials including the Prime Minster have hinted about the need to look at Regional Councils with indications of possible changes. This is what I think we know at this stage
 - Minister Bishop has announced that Regional Council Governorship will be replaced by the Mayors in some form of regional body.
 - This is not law yet and we have yet to see detail.
 - Timeframe the Minister has said that recently elected councillors to Regional Councils may not serve their entire time, so this appears to be fast-tracked.
 - Regional Councils are a regulatory body covering such things as compliance to matters involving the environment, flood control, pest control, public transport, Regional Civil Defence functions and many other roles. Presumably all of these functions will move to the "Mayors" to govern but will remain in place.
 - There are a number of Regional Councils facing court action and possible claims arising from such things as flood events etc. It would be concerning to me if the responsibility for these passes to ours and other councils.
 - Staffing should remain however the Government has also suggested some of the changes should remove duplication, gain efficiencies and enable a faster track to consenting.
 - This comes at a time when Councils are facing changes to many other reforms.

2 Indications of other major reforms:

 Local Water Done Well (LWDW) and the supporting of new regional entities. As I have reported several times, we are one of the new regional entities to deliver waste water services, water and storm water with Palmerston North City and Horowhenua District

Councils. That work is on track but has significant work ahead over the Christmas period. The shareholders committee should be put in place by the three Councils over the next few days and is highlighted within this Council meeting. The search for Board membership is in place now and should be finalised early next year.

- The reform of the RMA (Resource Management Act) is a process that is known but as a reminder, "The Government is reforming the RMA to make it easier, faster and simpler to get projects approved. The goals are to remove complexity, improve environmental protection and support housing and infrastructural growth". The RMA will be replaced by two new acts, which concern land use planning and natural resource management with a focus on the enjoyment of private property rights. These acts include the standardisation of consenting approaches throughout the country and new regulatory bodies. Essentially development should be easier but with an aim to reduce costs, fast track consents and drive GDP growth.
- Government has announced the Local Government Systems Improvement Act. This bill seeks to return Local Government to limit Councils' spending and rates to core services. There is more to this bill and the description of what are core services is not complete. For example, does Council have a responsibility for employment? Perhaps not under the bill but at the same time Government has asked Local Government through the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs to find work for those on unemployment registers. There will also be, as part of the bill, a naming and shaming of Councils that are not performing.
- The Government has also signalled changes needed in roading with a move to regional roading entities.
- Government has too signalled the introduction of a rates pegging legislation which will limit the ability of rate increases by authorities in the future. Key points are –
 - i) Legislation is yet to be passed but it is indicated that it will apply from 2027/2029 on.
 - ii) The Minister for Local Government has said that although legislation will be from 2027 his expectation, and public demand, is that Councils should comply with this immediately, i.e. the Annual Plan for next year.
 - iii) Some sections of Local Government rates will be exempt, such as delivery of Three Waters services, which will mean that the picture is not quite clear yet where it will apply and hence the average increase right across all Council rates.
 - iv) The legislation will support a range of rate increases permitted, at present looking to be a band between 2-4% increases.
 - v) There will be an appeal process, for example a significant event such as Cyclone Gabrielle, but the threshold for appeal will be extremely high.
 - vi) The 2-4% range was selected by reference to the CPI (Price Index) sitting around 3.5%. I will note that roading cost increases which are the significant cost to our Council are well beyond that in recent years.

vii) Councillors and staff will continue to look to make rates affordable and will certainly look to comply. Inevitably the consequence may be increased charges and lower levels of service. This will be incredibly challenging for all Councils.

All of these reforms, in particular the Regional Council reforms, Water reforms and RMA will drive Councils towards amalgamation. Government has said that talks of possible Council amalgamations are not being forced but that is the likely outcome. Amalgamation will undoubtedly gain efficiency and the argument often repeated by Government that we have about 80 authorities for a small population while Japan has about 13? is valid. However, the outcome from amalgamation is loss of local voice.

- 3. **Roading** as part of the induction for new Councillors, Council roading staff, Downer contractors, the Chief Executive and Elected Members took part in a road trip to look at significant roading issues in our district. With reduced funding available, maintenance of our roads is a serious challenge. In particular the Gentle Annie Road running between Taihape and Hastings needs significant reinstatement and resealing work over the summer amounting to around \$3.5m. This needed expenditure will limit spend on other required roading issues in the district. Much of the damage is associated with forestry cartage and I am in discussions with commercial interests and rail to see if I can review the log train contract due to expire at the end of January. I will report back on this later in the new year.
- 4. In August I received an email from Sandy Paterson, Company Sergeant Major of 2nd Workshop Company located in Linton, Palmerston North. Part of Sandy's job is taking care of the history of the unit and ensuring all traditions are carried out. Sandy informed me that the Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers currently hold the Freedom of the Borough for Taihape which allows them the honour and distinction of marching through the streets of the Borough with drums beating, band playing, colours flying and swords drawn. It also imparts the honour of viewing and inspecting the Corps on the Mayor.

In 1997 the Royal New Zealand Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers was disbanded, and all Maintenance Support trades were merged with those of Combat Drivers, Logistic Specialists, Movements Operators, and Caterers, forming the Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Corps, RNZALR. The charter for the freedom of the borough of Taihape was not transferred to the RNZALR and the last parade was conducted in 1996 or 1997.

Sandy believes the 2nd Workshop Company, as part of 2nd Combat Service Support Battalion and the RNZALR is the best unit to transfer this charter to. They have strong ties with the community of Taihape, parading at ANZAC Day commemorations and engaging with the community through the local RSA.

With the above in mind, Sandy has requested if Council would consider transferring the charter for the freedom of the borough of Taihape to 2nd Workshop Company. This would formalise the relationship between us and allow the company to conduct a parade in Taihape either once a year or once every second-year dependant on the council's appetite for formal occasions.

I have attached a series of documents and photographs to this report.

5. **The Tornado** – earlier this month we had a localised tornado hit Dudding Lake. One caravan in particular was lifted into the air and dropped upside down with a person inside. He was very fortunate to escape with relatively minor issues. Other caravans were lifted, small buildings demolished and many trees uprooted or damaged. Power sources to the camp were also lost.

Carol our Chief Executive has acted quickly and the camp was restored over a couple of days – many thanks go to staff, Lance and Tiff onsite and contractors who worked hard to reinstate. I have included some images to illustrate the damage.

6. Onto some great news –

- The Marton Op Shop is currently I think, at the time of writing this report, in the race to be called The Best Op Shop in the Country. Of course they are!! Voting will have closed on Saturday 13 December but I have looked at how I could promote this through Facebook before the deadline. The Op Shop is largely serviced by volunteers, donations and governed by church and service groups etc. The service the Op Shop provides is amazing, so please support them. Drop them a card to say Merry Christmas it will be appreciated.
- The Tender Documents have been sent out for the roof replacement of the Marton Pool
 with expected decisions early in the new year. This is great news and a significant step
 forward. Yes, it will mean another summer without the pool and Council will see how we
 can support local Learn To Swim programmes etc.
- The next fortnight is full of local events such as Christmas Parades, Marton Market Day, school prizegivings and wind-ups and myself and Councillors will be at as many as possible. I understand the that the Op Shop is also looking to sell tickets to the Marton Christmas Community Lunch this year – I have yet to see details but of course I will look to support it this year.

Finally, in case I don't get a chance later – Councillors and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, travel safely.

Mayor's Engagements

December 2025

1	Attended meeting with Chief Executive
	Attended Joint Iwi Waste Water Standards Hui
	Attended 3-CL Mayors/CEs meeting with Waikato/Hawkes Bay Councils to discuss water entities
	Attended Regional Mayors/CEs meeting
	Attended Mayoral Forum
2	Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting
	Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting
	Attended Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Meeting
	Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
3	Attended fortnightly Marton Water Strategy meeting with staff
	Attended Council Workshop

4	Attended Roading Control Authority Forum in Wellington
5	Attended meeting with Chief Executive
	Attended MTFJ meeting with James Towers and Louise McCoard
	Attended Standing Orders Training Workshop
	Attended meeting with Taihape Station Owners
6	Attended Marton Market Day
	Attended FENZ Gold Star Presentation to Chris Hope
7	Attended Otiwhiti Graduation Ceremony
	Attended RSA Christmas Lunch
	Attended Marton Christmas Parade
8	Attended meeting with Chief Executive
	Attended Hunterville Rural Water Scheme Meeting
9	Attended meeting with Robert Martin
	Attended MTFJ Mayor's Update online meeting
	Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
10	Attended monthly Governor's Q&A session with Executive Leadership Team
	Attended Crown Response into Abuse in Care Team Webinar - Survivor Support and Recognition Fund for Unmarked Graves
11	Attended Council Induction and Workshop
	Attended Council Meeting
12	To attend meeting with Chief Executive
	To attend monthly meeting with Police
	To attend Marton School Prizegiving
	To attend Council End of Year Function
13	To attend Taihape Christmas Parade
	To attend Bulls Community Christmas at the Domain
15	To attend meeting with Chief Executive
	To attend MTFJ Governance Group online meeting
16	To attend Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs' fortnightly catch-up
	To attend Citizenship Ceremony
	To attend weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
	To attend Defence Hub End of Year Function
17	To attend fortnightly Marton Water Strategy meeting with staff
18	To attend Council Workshop
19	To attend meeting with Chief Executive
	To attend CDW meeting in Palmerston North
	To attend staff End of Year function
<u> </u>	

22	To attend meeting with Chief Executive
23	To attend weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
24	To attend Hunterville Christmas Parade
25	To attend Marton Community Christmas Lunch

Attachments:

- 1. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape letter of request 🕹
- 2. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape letter from Buckingham Palace J
- 3. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape historical photographs U
- 4. Freedom of the Borough of Taihape Charter J.
- 5. Dudding Lake Pic 1 👃
- 6. Dudding Lake Pic 2 😃
- 7. Dudding Lake Pic 3 😃
- 8. Dudding Lake Pic 4 😃
- 9. Dudding Lake Pic 5 😃
- 10. Dudding Lake Pic 6 😃
- 11. Dudding Lake Pic 7 👃
- 12. Dudding Lake Pic 8 🗓
- 13. Dudding Lake Pic 9 &
- 14. Dudding Lake Pic 10 $\frac{1}{2}$
- 15. Dudding Lake Pic 11 \downarrow
- 16. Dudding Lake Pic 12 😃

Recommendation 1

That the Mayor's Report – December 2025 be received.

Recommendation 2

That in appreciation of the honourable traditions of the Second Workshop Company and recognition of its long and intimate association with the Borough of Taihape the Council confer upon the Second Workshop Company the rights, privilege and honour of marching through the streets of Taihape on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating and colours flying and that the Corporate Seal will be affixed to the necessary Deed of Grant and that the name of the second Workshop Company be inscribed on a panel in the Town Hall.



Farrier Lines
Building D76
Linton Military Camp
Palmerston north, 4830

From: Company Sergeant Major, 2nd Workshop Company.

19 November 2025

Rangitikei District Council Private Bag 1102 Marton, 4741

Dear Members of the Rangitikei District Council

Reconfirmation of the Freedom of the Borough Charter for Taihape

In 1973, the Royal New Zealand Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RNZEME) was granted the Freedom of the Borough of Taihape, with the Corps first exercising this honour during a parade on 14 December 1973.

Following the amalgamation of RNZEME into the Royal New Zealand Army Logistic Regiment (RNZALR) and the restructuring of local governance—where Taihape Borough became part of the Rangitikei District Council—the charter has not been exercised since approximately 1996.

2nd Workshop Company (2 WKSP Coy), based in Linton, recently engaged with Rangitikei District Council to clarify the status of this historic charter. Having not been exercised for nearly 30 years, we see this as an opportunity to reaffirm the enduring relationship between the New Zealand Army and the Rangitikei District, and to honour the historical significance of this tradition.

Permission is being sought from the Chief of Army for approval to reconfirm the Freedom of the Borrough of Taihape and this letters serves to request the same from Rangitikei District Council. On approval planning can begin on the formal ceremony and details of the charter.

With the council's permission, the suggested form of resolution to be passed by the council, as outlined in the NZ Army publication NZ P6A, NZ Army Ceremonial, would look like the below.

"That in appreciation of the honourable traditions of the Second Workshop Company and recognition of its long and intimate association with the Borough of Taihape the Council confer upon the Second Workshop Company the rights, privilege, and honour of marching through the streets of Taihape on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, and colours flying; that the Corporate Seal be affixed to the necessary Deed of Grant and that the name of the second Workshop Company be inscribed on a panel in the Town Hall."

Item 7.1 - Attachment 1 Page 25

This reference also contains the format for the Charter outlined below.

(Crest)

Community of Taihape

Charter

Second Workshop Company

WHEREAS the Mayor, Councillors, and Citizens of Taihape being sensible of the honourable record and traditions of the Second Workshop Company and being desirous of recognising, cementing, and fostering the intimate association which is now and has for so long been enjoyed between the City and the Company in which so many of its citizens have been proud to serve.

NOW THEREFORE the Mayor and Councillors of the Rangitikei District Council, on behalf of the borough of Taihape, do hereby confer upon the said Second Workshop Company the right and privilege, without further permission being obtained, of marching (when such processions are approved) with drums beating, band playing, colours flying, bayonets fixed, and swords drawn, through the streets of the Town of Taihape

AND

DO HEREBY accept the honour of viewing the Second Workshop Company or part thereof, when approved, for the purpose of an inspection by His/Her Worship the Mayor

AND

DO HEREBY accept the further honour of having an officer of the said Company in uniform in attendance upon His/Her Worship the Mayor on important official occasions in Taihape.

The Common Seal of the Body)		
Corporate called the Mayor,)	
Councillors, and Citizens of)	
the City of Blanktown was)	Mayor
hereto affixed pursuant to a)	
resolution of the said)		Town Clerk
Council this)		
day of20)			
in the presence of -			

2

Item 7.1 - Attachment 1 Page 26

I attach at enclosure 1. A photo of the charter of Foxton as an example.

On approval from the Rangitikei District Council and the Chief of Army, 2nd Workshop Company will engage with the council in order to begin planning of the formal ceremony to bestow the charter.

A rough outline would look like 2nd Workshop Company marching through the main road of Taihape to the front of the town hall. Once in place the Company will give a general salute then be inspected by the Mayor and a senior representative of the NZ Army. On completion of the inspection the mayor will ask 2nd Workshop to accept the charter conferring on it the honour of freedom of entry into the borough on ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, and colours flying. The charter will then be read. The Company will once again give a general salute then march off. The ceremony will take less than half an hour.

On approval of the above 2nd Workshop Company look forward to engaging with the council and members of the community of Taihape and reaffirming our relationship with the community.

Kind regards

Sandy

Digitally signed by Sandy Paterson Paterson Date: 2025.11.26 12:08:27 +13'00'

SANDY PATERSON

Warrant Officer Class Two Company Sergeant Major

3



BUCKINGHAM PALACE

I am delighted to hear that the relationships between the Corps and the citizens of Taihape are so good that they are to receive formal recognition in the offer of the Freedom of the Borough.

I send my warmest congratulations to the Corps of Royal New Zealand Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and I hope it will be a very happy occasion for the Corps and for the citizens of Taihape.

1973.

Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

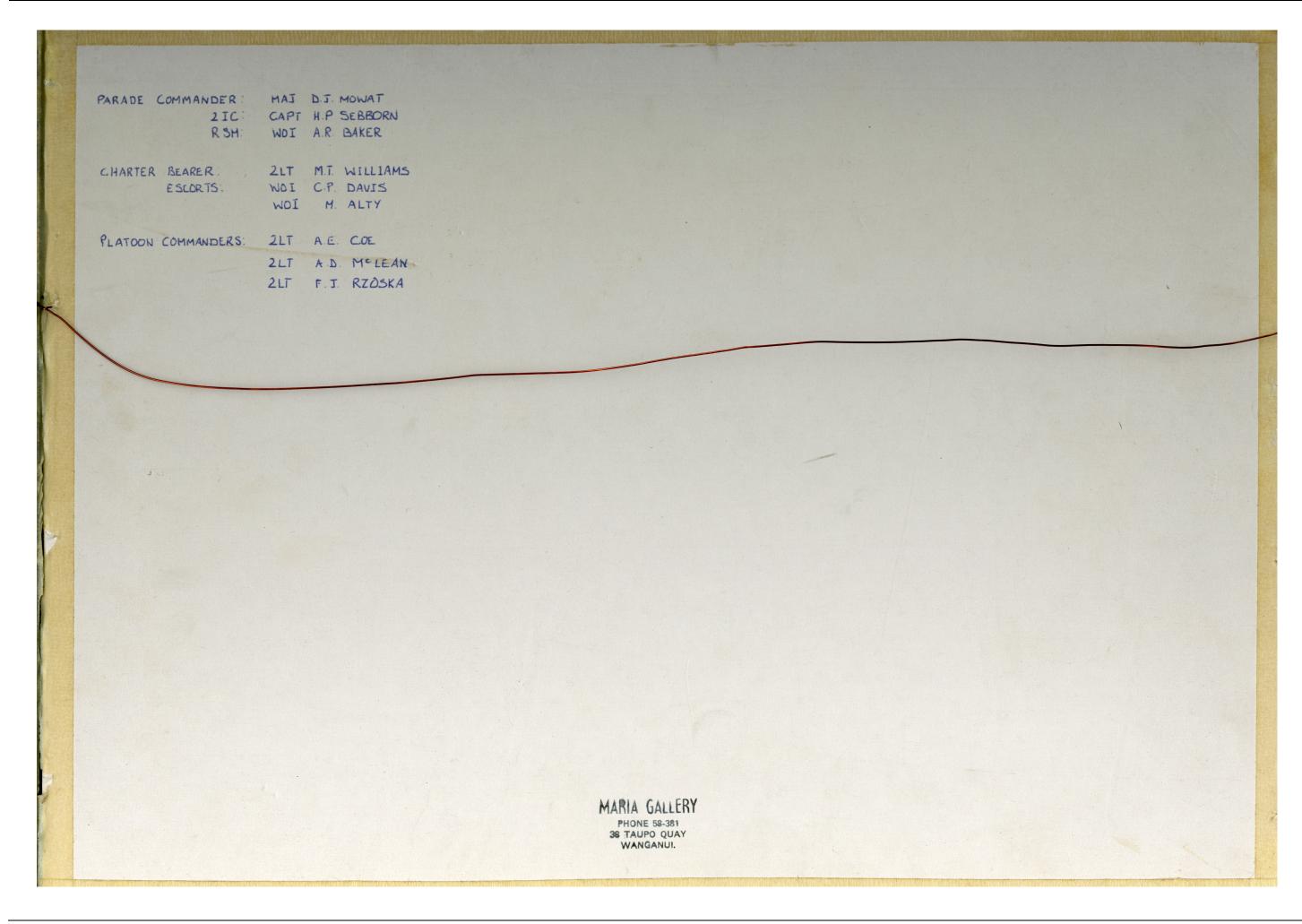
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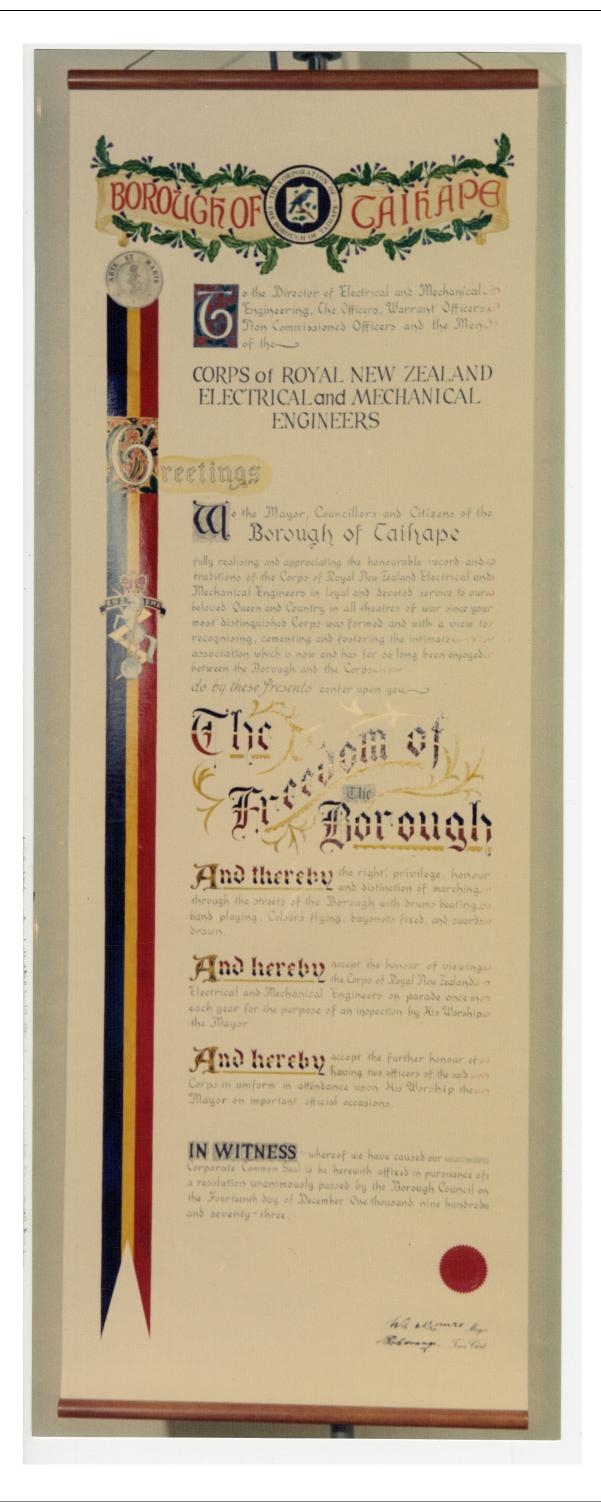




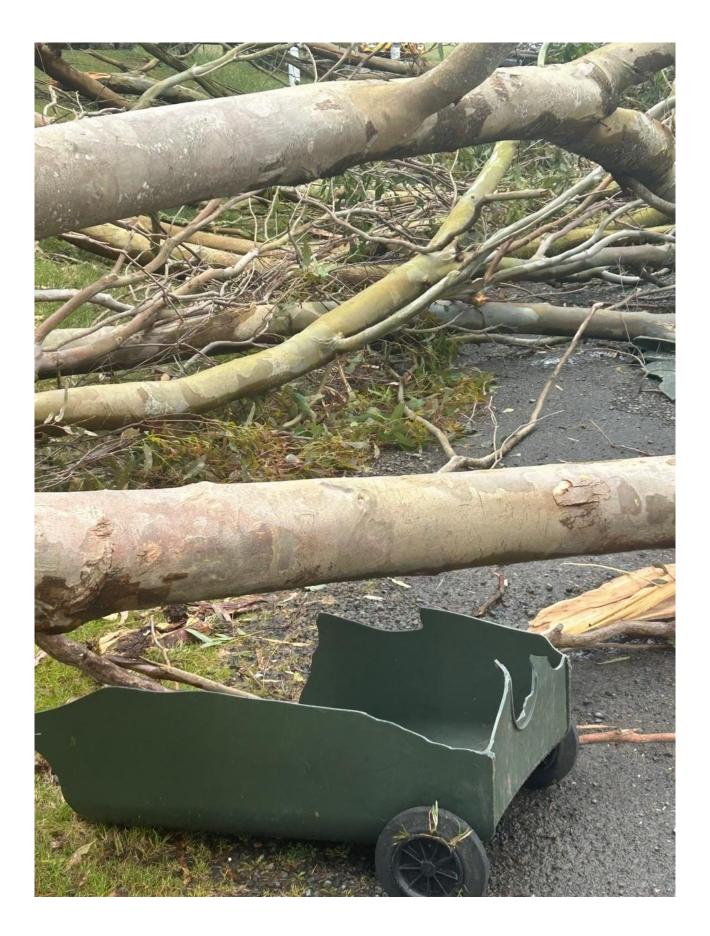
Item 7.1 - Attachment 3 Page 30

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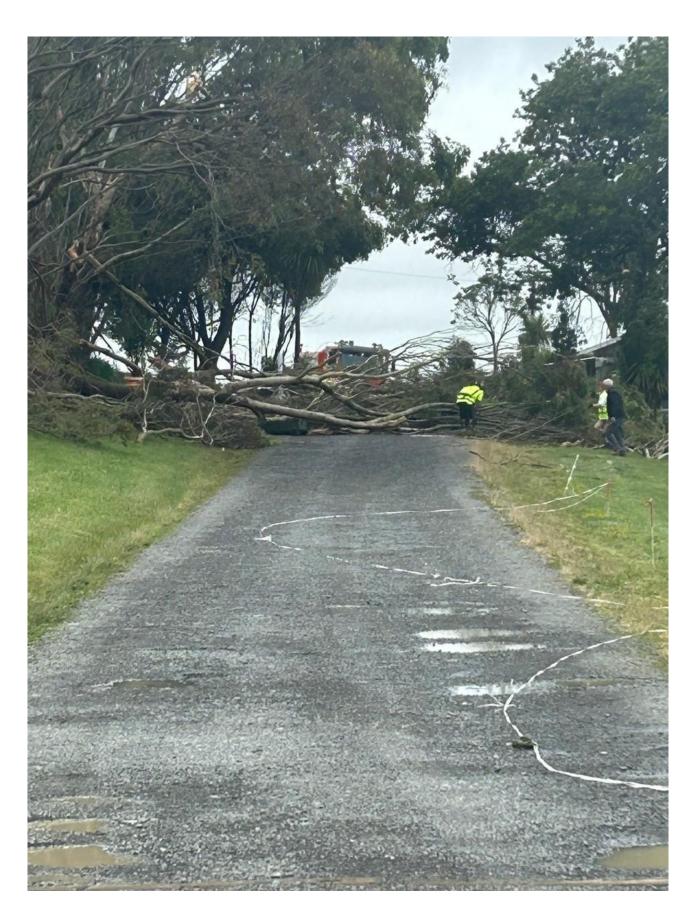




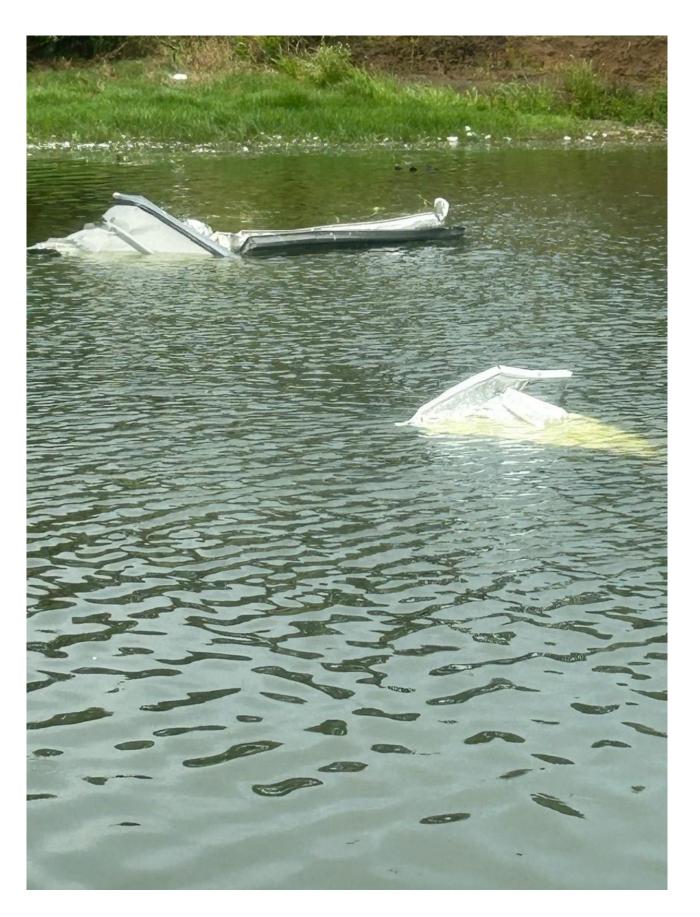
Item 7.1 - Attachment 4 Page 32



Item 7.1 - Attachment 5 Page 33



Item 7.1 - Attachment 6 Page 34



Item 7.1 - Attachment 7 Page 35



Item 7.1 - Attachment 8 Page 36



Item 7.1 - Attachment 9 Page 37



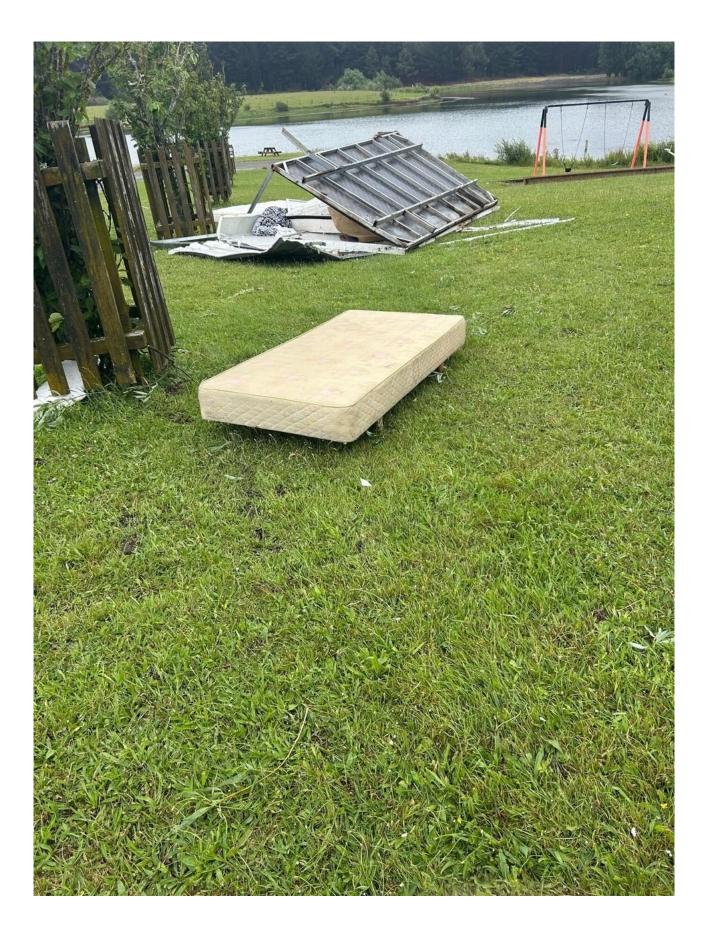
Item 7.1 - Attachment 10 Page 38



Item 7.1 - Attachment 11 Page 39



Item 7.1 - Attachment 12 Page 40



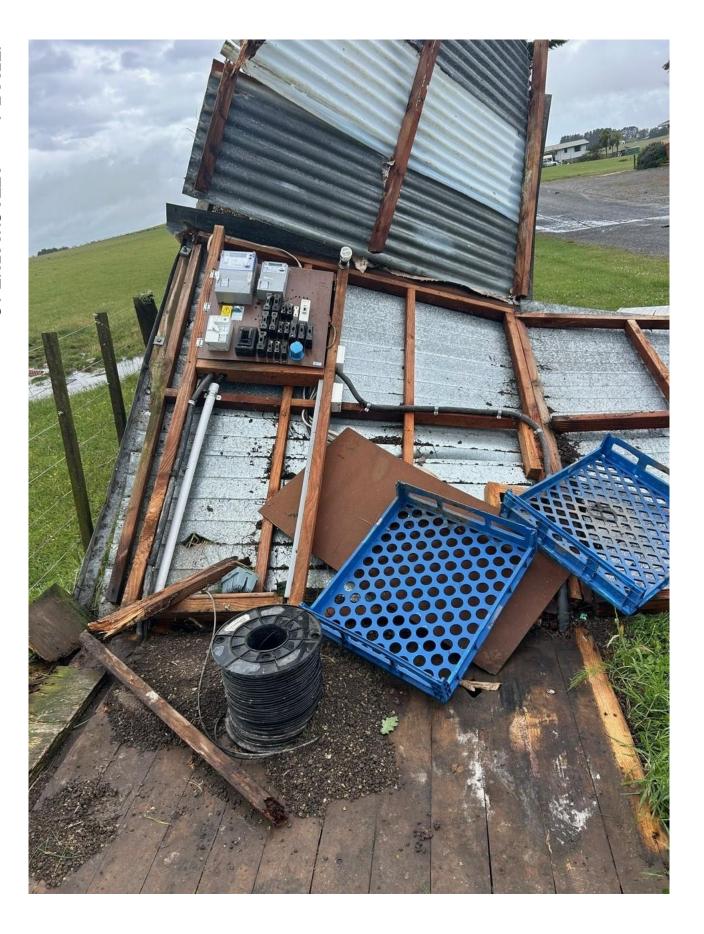
Item 7.1 - Attachment 13 Page 41



Item 7.1 - Attachment 14 Page 42



Item 7.1 - Attachment 15 Page 43



Item 7.1 - Attachment 16 Page 44

8 Chief Executive's Report

8.1 Chief Executive's Report - December 2025

Author: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This report provides Elected Members with an update on key activities across the organisation.

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

- 2.1 13, 20 October, 3, 10, 14 November 2025 Sport Whanganui Ki O Rahi Round robin tournament Velodrome and toilets Wilson Park, Marton
- 2.2 1 November 2025 Hunterville Huntaway Festival Hunterville Domain
- 2.3 11 November 2025 Armistice Day Cenotaphs across the district Bulls Cenotaph, Marton Park, Hunterville Cenotaph, Taihape Cenotaph clock tower
- 2.4 12 November 2025 Central Hepatitis C Program Free mobile clinic Village Green,Marton
- 2.5 17-24 November 2025 The Amazing Dinosaur Discovery Wilson Park, Marton
- 2.6 26, 27 November 2025 Marton Rotary Erect Town Xmas Tree and "A Merry Night in Marton" Village Green, Marton

3. Staff Movements

3.1 In November, we welcomed the following employee to Council:

Calum Wilbur – Senior Accountant

3.2 We also farewelled the following employee:

Kendyl O'Donoghue - Cleaner

4. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard

4.1 The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard for November 2025 is attached (Attachment 1).

5. Submissions

5.1 The updated list of current opportunities to submit on consultations run by external agencies is attached (Attachment 2).

Consultations submitted on

5.2 There have been no new consultations submitted since the last update.

Consultations for submission

5.3 Council will participate in a combined regional submission on the Government's Simplifying Local Government proposals, led by Horizons Regional

- Council. In addition to the combined submission, the council will also provide our own submission to reflect local considerations. The closing date of the consultation is 20 February 2026.
- 5.4 Council will make a submission on the Government's proposed national rates-cap framework, which sets a target annual increase for council rates of 2–4% per capita. Consultation has started and closes in February 2026, with Government planning to introduce an interim framework in 2027 before moving to the full model in 2029.
- 5.5 The consultations will be made available on Council's website after submission Submissions made to other Organisations: Rangitikei District Council

6. Local Water Done Well Update

- 6.1 This regular update provides progress on work on LWDW.
- 6.2 The three phases of the Establishment Plan are:
 - i. Phase 1: Legal establishment of the entity by 1 July 2026
 - ii. Phase 2: Operational establishment by 1 July 2027
 - iii. Phase 3: Operational from 1 July 2027
- 6.3 Progress on Phase 1 includes:
 - 6.3.1 Central Districts Water (CDW) formal launch of name and branding in November.
 - 6.3.2 A Council workshop on the draft Foundation Documents and key related matters was held on 27 November and a follow up session on 3 December.
 - 6.3.3 Workshops and/or discussions have been held with the Elected Members of each of the three Councils prior to their decision meetings for adoption of the Constitution and Shareholder Agreement drafts for CDW. Those meetings are scheduled on Wednesday 10 December for Horowhenua District Council and Palmerston North City Council, and on Thursday 11 December for Rangitīkei District Council.
 - 6.3.4 The mayors and chief executives met with the Executive Director of IAWAI Flowing Waters (the Hamilton City and Waikato District WS-CCO) and the Hawkes Bay WS-CCO establishment team to share progress and learnings.
 - 6.3.5 From Monday 1 December, the CDW Establishment team started work from the Palmerston North City Council office, with seconded staff as appointed from within the three shareholder councils.
 - 6.3.6 Recruitment for the Directors to the CDW Board has opened, with applications closing 19 December.
 - 6.3.7 Key milestones in phase 1 include:
 - Shareholders Council will be set up by early 2026.
 - WS-CCO Establishment CEO to be appointed by mid 2026.
 - Financing arrangements agreed to by mid 2026.
- 6.4 A hui with Rangitīkei iwi was recently held to provide an update on the Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards, now published into regulation. From July 2027 this will fall under the ambit of Central Districts Water.

7. Santoft Domain Management Committee Fee Reimbursement Request

- 7.1 The Santoft Domain Management Committee is a committee of Council responsible for overseeing the development and improvement of the Santoft Domain. The Committee holds funds generated from grazing activities on the Domain, which it uses to support ongoing development, including the current building project.
- 7.2 The Santoft Domain Management Committee has requested Council reimburse fees that were charged as part of building consent and associated processes for their build at the Santoft Domain. These date back to work started in 2023.
- 7.3 The below (GST exclusive) costs have been asked for reimbursement, totalling 13,932.54:
 - 7.3.1 RDC Consent Payment RM240007 \$1,198.26
 - 7.3.2 RDC RM240010 Planning Costs and Fees \$2,069.57
 - 7.3.3 RDC BC230158 Building Consent \$10,461.23
 - 7.3.4 RDC BC230158 2x printed consents \$203.48
- 7.4 As some of these costs include external charges and statutory functions under the Building Act 2004 and Resource Management Act 1991 (eg BRANZ, MBIE levies and National Consultants) that cannot be waived, the total amount that could be reimbursed is \$5,426.54. If Council agrees, this amount would be credited to their account that is held by Council.
- 7.5 Council is asked to consider the Committee's request and determine any level of reimbursement. Refer to Recommendation 2 below.

8. Historical Roading Matter - Koitiata

- 8.1 Land along the coast in front of the Koitiata settlement and towards Scotts Ferry is Crown Land, originally reserved from sale and held as a Public Domain. Rangitikei County Council controlled and managed the domain under a Crown appointment dated 1917. Since 1989 Rangitīkei District Council has controlled and managed the land for recreation purposes under the (1977) Reserves Act.
- 8.2 The County acquired fee simple title to parts of the original domain in the mid-1980s and completed two residential subdivisions fronting an extension to Rapaki Street, Koitiata.
- 8.3 One of the subdivided sections (Lot 19 DP 61060) became, and remains, landlocked. To remedy that the County Council undertook to create an easement for right of way over Lot 18 fronting Rapaki Street (displayed Red on the attached aerial overlay Attachment 3). Title searches reveal the easement did not provide uninterrupted access and Lot 19 still has no frontage to the legal road. Another complication is that a garage has been built over part of the proposed easement corridor. Unfortunately, Council's building control records provide no insight into how this occurred.
- 8.4 Physical access to Lot 19 is via a roadway formation across the recreation reserve. No evidence has yet been found for when, or at whose cost, the roadway was formed, noting that Rangitīkei District Council has maintained it.
- 8.5 In addressing this historical issue two remedial actions have been identified, Council could either:

- (1) seek Crown consent to legalise the formed "roadway" where it currently lies; or
- (2) grant an easement for public Rights of Way over the portion of the recreation reserve where the formed "roadway" now lies.
- 8.6 Legalisation of road can be a relatively straightforward process, but the underlying (reserved) Crown Land status would create extra "layers" of action required. At the very least, inputs and consents would be required from the Department of Conservation (DOC) on behalf of the Minister as nominal owner for the Crown. DOC officers have advised that they are unlikely to be able to consider this for quite some time due to workloads.
- 8.7 An adequate, workable solution for this matter is for Council (in its capacity as Controller and Manager of the reserved land) to grant an easement to Rangitikei District Council for the benefit of the public in general. Specific wording to protect the public rights of access and use can (and should) be written into the registered easement document.
- 8.8 Initial work confirms this process could be achieved under the Reserves Act. The Minister of Conservation's 2013 delegation specifically provides authority for Council to act in this matter. The Reserve Act requires that the proposal must be publicly notified, and provides for rights whereby "any person or organisation may object to......or make submissions with respect to" the proposal.
- 8.9 The issues that could arise from submissions or objections following public notification cannot be anticipated. It is also common for such notifications to receive no responses.
- 8.10 It may be possible to adopt the approved Survey Plans from the 1980s subdivisions for both of the actions in this report. That has not yet been tested with either LINZ Survey or Land Registry. If these Plans are not acceptable, a new survey dedicated to the proposed road or easement action will be required.
- 8.11 Rough order costings for both actions are similar, estimated to be approximately \$8,000, which can be met by existing budgets.
- 8.12 Officers consider it desirable for this longstanding matter to be progressed for the benefit of all parties and recommend pursuing the easement option as the preferred course of action. The recommendation below seeks authority to allow flexibility in responding as required, without the need for further directives or delays. Refer to Recommendation 3.

9. Kensington Road – Proceeds of Sale

- 9.1 In July 2025, the Tenders Board approved the sale of surplus land at Kensington Road, Marton for \$310,000 + GST. The sale was completed on 5 September 2025 and the proceeds from sale after advertising and sale fees are \$292,316.41.
- 9.2 Options relating to the proceeds from sale were presented to Council at a workshop on 3 December 2025. These options included reduction of debt, applying funds to a specific capital project or allocation to reserve for a special purpose. At the workshop there was a discussion about allocating the funds to combination of projects, specifically the netball courts surface and swimming pool project. Refer to Recommendation 4 below.

10. Financial Implications

10.1 There are no significant financial implications associated with this report. The proceeds of sale for Kensington Road has provided income for Council.

10.2 Addressing the historical issue at Rapaki Street, Koitiata will incur costs, which have not been budgeted.

11. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 11.1 Legal and political environment requires excessive resources / changes to governmental legislation are transformational:
 - Tracking external submissions ensures Council is aware of upcoming legislative changes which may require resources.
- 11.2 Obligations with health, safety and wellbeing are not met:
 - The Health, Safety and Wellbeing dashboard is attached. There is a strong focus on Health, Safety and Wellbeing within the organisation.
- 11.3 Trust and confidence in Council is tarnished:
 - not addressing historical issues like the one at Koitiata may diminish trust and confidence and only leaves it to be addressed at a future time.

12. Strategic Alignment

12.1 There are no strategic alignment impacts on the sections in this report.

13. Mana Whenua Implications

- 13.1 Members of the Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti receive the submission list and, if time allows, asked for input into specific draft submissions.
- 13.2 Iwi play a key part in Local Water Done Well and the next stages of forming the Water Services CCO having iwi input early into this is a vital and important step in the formation of this.
- 13.3 There are no other known mana whenua implications associated with this report.

14. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

14.1 There are no climate change impacts associated with this report.

15. Statutory Implications

15.1 Local Water Done Well is a requirement under the Local Government (Water Services) Bill and the regular update is provided to keep Council informed.

16. Decision Making Process

16.1 There are no sections of this report that are considered to be a significant decision according to the Council's Policy on Significance and Engagement.

Attachments:

- 1. Health Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard November 2025 U
- 2. External consultations December 2025 U
- 3. Rapaki Street Aerial Overlay 2025 U

Recommendation 1

That the report Chief Executive's Report – December 2025 be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Council agrees / does not agree [delete one] to reimburse the Santoft Domain Management Committee [and if required] to the value of \$______.

Recommendation 3

That Council authorises the Chief Executive to take the required action/s to address the road status and provide legal road frontage to 1 Rapaki Street, Koitiata.

Recommendation 4

That Council allocates \$292,316.41 which is the proceeds from the sale of land at Kensington Road to two Special and Restricted Reserves

As follows:

\$50,000 allocated to General Purpose (Capital Works) to replace the committed funding for the netball courts surface in accordance with resolution 25/RDC/304

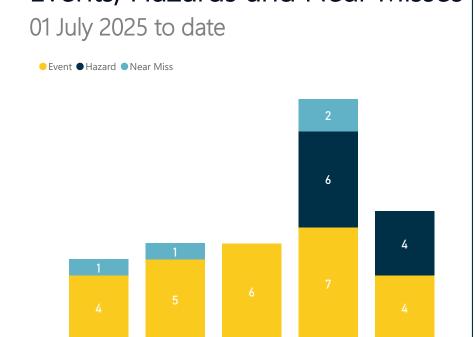
AND

the balance of \$242,316.41 allocated to Aquatic Special Reserve for future funding towards the Swimming Pool project.



RDC Health and Safety Dashboard November 2025

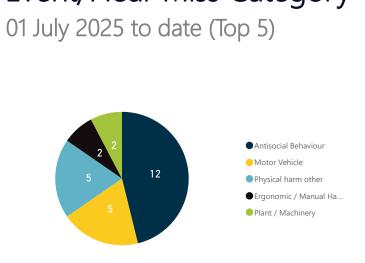
Events, Hazards and Near Misses | Event/Near Miss Category



September

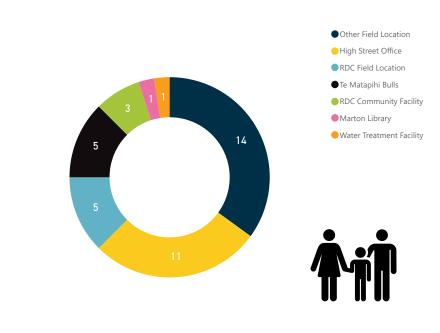
October

November



Location

Events, Hazards and Near Misses



Summary of Month

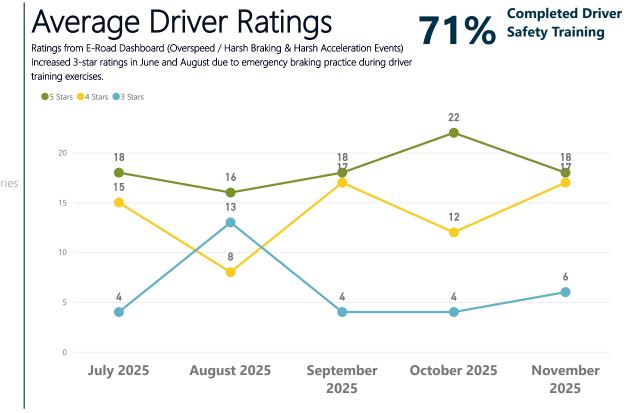
July





Notifiable
Illness/Injuries





December Wellbeing News

Safety Over the Holiday Season

With the holiday season just around the corner, we hope you all get the chance to unwind and spend time with the people who matter most. Whether you're working through the break or taking some well-earned time off, please look after yourselves and each other. Stay safe if you're travelling, be sun smart, and remember to pace yourselves during this busy time of year.

Our Dashboard is Changing!

With the New Year comes a refreshed HSW Dashboard. We've been working on several improvements that will be introduced in the first Dashboard of 2026. This will be the final edition to include the Wellbeing News section, but you'll see some exciting new features in its place. We look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Item 8.1 - Attachment 1 Page 51

Name of initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Description	RDC Action		
Currently Open for submissions						
DZ 9202:2025 Local government standing orders DZ 9202:2025 Local government standing orders - Standards New Zealand - Citizen Space	Standards New Zealand	12 Dec	The Local Government (System Improvements) Amendment Bill will empower the Secretary for Local Government to issue model standing orders. These will provide further consistency and certainty to councils about council meeting procedures. They will apply to all types of local authorities as defined under the LGA 2002.	None		
Considering changes to light vehicle inspections https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/considering-changes-to-light-vehicle-inspections	New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)	17 December	The proposal includes changing inspection frequency (e.g., issuing a four-year WoF for new vehicles), expanding the scope of inspections to cover Advanced Driver Assistance Systems, and increasing public awareness and enforcement.	None		
Considering new safety features for vehicles imported into New Zealand https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/considering-new-safety-features-for-vehicles-imported-into-new-zealand	New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)	17 December	The consultation seeks feedback on whether additional safety features should be mandatory for vehicles imported into New Zealand, making them more common and potentially reducing the severity of crashes. Proposed features for both new and used heavy and light vehicles include Automatic Emergency Braking, Lane Keep Support systems, and Acoustic Vehicle Alerting Systems for quieter electric and hybrid vehicles.	None		
Heavy Vehicle Productivity Phase 1 https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/heavy-vehicle-productivity-phase-1	New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA)	17 December	The proposed changes include removing 44T–50MAX permits where vehicles meet specified design standards and operate on pre-approved routes; removing H plates (while retaining existing permit requirements); incorporating the Bolster Attachment Code for logging trucks by reference to allow easier updates; and making minor amendments to definitions in the HV Rule, such as removing the unused term 'low volume vehicle'.	None		
Proposed data collection approach and content for the census https://www.stats.govt.nz/consultations/public-consultation-proposed-data-collection-approach-and-content-for-thecensus/	Statistics New Zealand	19 December	Statistics New Zealand is seeking feedback on its current thinking for the next census, including the proposed data collection approach and content. Consultation focuses on four key areas: how Stats will introduce the new admin-data-first census model; which census variables will be affected and how this information could be collected; the topics proposed for collection through admin data and the new annual census survey; and understanding broader data needs beyond what the census alone can provide.	None		

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Proposed changes to the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules for supplies serving 501 or more people https://korero.taumataarowai.go vt.nz/regulatory/rules-review- large-supplies/ Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill Land Transport (Revenue) Amendment Bill - New Zealand	Water Services Authority- Taumata Arowai Parliament Transport & Infrastructure Committee	19 December	The proposal is to shift annual reporting for all supplies from the calendar year to the financial year, beginning 1 July 2027. It also aims to simplify the rules by aligning treatment levels with source water risk, while maintaining strong public health protections. The bill creates a more flexible and responsive tolling framework to support investment in roading infrastructure (Auckland will be the first) and modernises the road user charges system and remove barriers to the future transition of	Under Consideration
Building and Construction Sector (Strengthening Occupational Licensing Regimes) Amendment Bill Building and Construction Sector (Strengthening Occupational Licensing Regimes) Amendment Bill - New Zealand Parliament	Parliament Transport & Infrastructure Committee	08 Jan	all light vehicles from fuel excise duty to road user charges. The bill is intended to strengthen occupational licensing regimes in the building and construction sector. It is an omnibus bill that would amend the Building Act 2004, the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006, and the Electricity Act 1992.	None
Building and Construction Sector (Self-certification by Plumbers and Drainlayers) Amendment Bill Building and Construction Sector (Self-certification by Plumbers and Drainlayers) Amendment Bill - New Zealand Parliament	Parliament Transport & Infrastructure Committee	08 Jan	The bill is intended to introduce an opt-in scheme to allow qualified plumbers and drainlayers to self-certify that their work complies with the terms of a building consent. This is intended to remove the need for a building consent authority inspection. The bill is an omnibus bill that would amend the Building Act 2004 and the Plumbers, Gasfitters, and Drainlayers Act 2006.	None
Meteorological Services (Acquisition and Policies) Legislation Amendment Bill Meteorological Services (Acquisition and Policies) Legislation Amendment Bill - New Zealand Parliament	Parliament Economic Development, Science and Innovation Committee	14 Jan	The Government proposes to bring together meteorology, climate science, hydrology, and oceanography into a single, integrated system. This aims to create a stronger and more connected weather-forecasting capability, improving the accuracy and reliability of weather information for New Zealand.	None
Price-quality regulation for Auckland Watercare Price-quality-path-for-Watercare- Approach-Paper-26-November- 2025.pdf	Commerce Commission	16 Jan	The approach paper sets out the Commission's preliminary view. Price-quality regulation is used to manage the revenues, service quality, and performance of water services provided by regulated suppliers. Although called 'price-quality' regulation, the Commission sets maximum revenue limits rather than limits on individual prices. While focused on Watercare, some of the thinking may be relevant to other suppliers in the future. The Commission encourages feedback from Watercare, other providers, and interested stakeholders.	None

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				Hadan .
Consultation on first round of Acts proposed for repeal https://pco.govt.nz/about- us/about-new-zealand- legislation/legislation-repeals- project/consultation-on-first- round-of-acts-proposed-for- repeal#content	Parliamentary Counsel Office	10 February	The PCO, with the Department of Internal Affairs for local Acts, is seeking feedback on 50 New Zealand Acts (30 local, 5 public, 15 private) proposed for repeal. These Acts have been reviewed under the Legislation Repeals Project and are considered outdated and redundant. Repealing them helps keep laws up to date, easier to understand, and reduces unnecessary costs or confusion for legal users, local government, and the public. The PCO has consulted relevant agencies and authorities and submissions are now open.	Under Consideration
Simplifying local government https://www.dia.govt.nz/Simplifyi ng-Local-Government	Department of Internal Affairs	20 February	The Government is proposing a two-step approach to simplify local government. Step 1: Mayors who are already elected will form a Combined Territories Board (CTB) to lead regional issues and take on all current regional council roles. Feedback is also sought on an alternative option of appointing one or more Crown Commissioners to join or lead the board. Step 2: The CTB will develop a Regional Reorganisation Plan to improve collaboration and efficiency among councils. The plan will be prepared with public consultation, independently reviewed, and approved by the Minister of Local Government.	Submitting
Consultation on development levies https://www.dia.govt.nz/Development-levies-consultation	Department of Internal Affairs	20 February	The Government is proposing to replace development contributions with a development levies system. The Department of Internal Affairs is seeking feedback on a partial exposure draft of the Local Government (Infrastructure Funding) Amendment Bill, which will implement the new system, and on the proposed regulations that will support its implementation.	Under Consideration
National rate cap framework Getting rates under control for ratepayers Beehive.govt.nz		End February	Government has proposed a new national ratescap framework, setting a target annual increase for council rates of 2–4% per capita. Consultation has started, and Government plans to introduce an interim framework in 2027 before moving to the full model in 2029.	Submitting

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Rangitīkei District Council Map



0.01 0.03 0.06 km

Eagle Technology, LINZ, StatsNZ, NIWA, Natural Earth, © OpenStreetMap contributors., Eagle Technology, Land Information New Zealand, Eagle Technology, Land Information New Zealand, GEBCO, Community maps contributors

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9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Local Water Done Well - Foundation documents for the joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation known as Central Districts Water

Author: Arno Benadie, Deputy Chief Executive

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement are the principal foundation documents for Horowhenua District Council, Palmerston North City Council and Rangitīkei District Council in establishing the joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation, to be known as Central Districts Water Ltd.
- 1.2 The three Councils are being asked to approve these two documents so that Central Districts Water can be incorporated as a legal entity, and the Shareholder Committee and Board of Directors subsequently appointed.

2. Context

- 2.1 During February-April 2025, Horowhenua District Council, Palmerston North City Council and Rangitīkei District Council consulted with their communities on options for the future of water services delivery in their districts. All three included within their options a multi-council Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation (WS-CCO), as well as an in-house arrangement.
- 2.2 Community feedback strongly supported collaboration with other Councils. Based on this feedback, in May and June 2025, the three Councils each resolved to form a jointly owned Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation (Water Organisation).
- 2.3 Following these decisions, the three Councils worked together to prepare a joint Water Services Delivery Plan (WSDP), which was submitted on 21 August 2025. On 10 November 2025, the Secretary for Local Government confirmed acceptance of the WSDP, noting that the Department's monitoring of the Plan's implementation will focus on:
 - delivery of the capital programme, in particular the projects required to achieve regulatory compliance, and
 - operational expenditure.
- 2.4 A Collaboration Agreement was signed by the Chief Executives of the three Councils on 17 September 2025. This Agreement set out how the three Councils will work together to establish the Water Organisation. In addition, the three Councils identified five Transition Principles that would underpin the work, being:

	Principle	Rationale
1	Maintain Service Continuity Ensure water services remain safe, reliable, and compliant throughout the transition.	Keeping water services safe and reliable, and acting quickly, means potential service interruptions are minimised, and the
		transition stays on track.

	Principle	Rationale
	Make decisions and act promptly to avoid delays and keep outcomes on track.	
2	Collaborate to Gain Efficiencies and Solve Issues Work together proactively to identify and resolve challenges quickly and constructively for the benefit of our communities.	Working together means problems get identified, a pathway forward decided, and solutions obtained efficiently and effectively.
3	Support Staff Wellbeing Prioritise clear communication, job security, and wellbeing for all staff involved in the transition.	Supporting staff helps everyone stay focused and positive, making the transition smoother.
4	Transparent Engagement Keep communities and stakeholders informed with timely updates and look to provide opportunities for feedback.	Keeping people informed builds trust and helps avoid confusion or surprises.
5	Iwi involvement Recognise and seek to reflect existing relationships and arrangements with Iwi by engaging early, openly, and respectfully, ensuring their perspectives and rights are actively considered in all transition decisions and actions.	Ensuring that Iwi voices are heard and respected, strengthening outcomes for everyone.

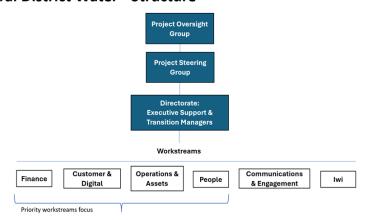
2.5 The following chart is a high-level roadmap of the planned phases of the project, reflecting the implementation plan included in the WSDP:



2.6 The immediate focus (December 2025-February 2026 in the timeline above) is on agreeing key terms relating to the governance and commercial arrangements for the new Water Organisation, and including lwi from the three districts in those discussions.

2.7 Following the appointment of Chris Dyhrberg as Executive Director for the project, the three Council Chief Executives, who form the Project Steering Group (PSG), in consultation with the three Mayors, who form the Project Oversight Group (POG), have finalised an Establishment team, which includes a secretariat, six workstream leads, and a transition manager for each Council.

Central District Water - Structure









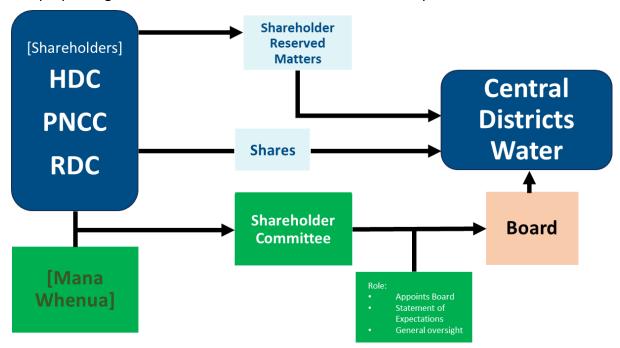


3. Analysis

- 3.1 The critical first step in establishing Central Districts Water is for the three Councils, as shareholders, to adopt the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement for the new entity. These documents have been prepared by Simpson Grierson, the legal advisors to the three Councils, based on the templates provided by the Department of Internal Affairs.
- 3.2 The advice and final documents presented to Council for consideration have been guided by Elected Member voice through a series of joint and individual Council workshops. It is important to recognise that the documents recommended for adoption, reflect those preferences where the most alignment exists between the three shareholding parties.
- 3.3 To guide decision making, Simpson Grierson has prepared a table that identifies key features of the documents, the various options available relative to those features, and their recommendations to the Councils. This table is included as Attachment 1.
- 3.4 The Constitution is a document that establishes some of the key frameworks for how the Water Organisation to be known as Central Districts Water will operate, sets out its objectives and the rules for its governance structure. Key provisions include:
 - complying with budgeting and reporting requirements (under the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 and as required by the Shareholders Committee)
 - requiring an annual meeting of shareholders (and setting the rules for these)

- allowing payment of dividends (or not)
- 3.5 The Shareholders' Agreement sets out the details of how the relationships will work between the three Councils as shareholders, and between the shareholders and the Board of Central Districts Water, and how mana whenua will be involved in the oversight of Central Districts Water. Key provisions include:
 - establishing the Shareholders Committee (and defining its terms of reference), as the representative forum for the shareholders and iwi representatives to provide oversight of, and exercise powers delegated to the Committee by the shareholders in respect of, Central Districts Water (including the appointment of the Board of Directors),
 - defining the share capital for the company,
 - setting out 'reserved matters' i.e. decisions that require unanimous or special agreement of the shareholders (such as entry or exit of shareholders, amalgamation or liquidation),
 - providing for how disputes are to be dealt with.
- 3.6 Both documents are intended to apply from establishment of the Water Organisation, and will enable us to progress to the next steps.
- 3.7 The proposed Constitution is included as Attachment 2 and the Shareholders' Agreement as Attachment 3.
- 3.8 An introductory briefing on the Foundation Documents was provided for each Council individually on 23 October 2025 (Rangitīkei) and 29 October 2025 (Horowhenua and Palmerston North). This was followed by a more detailed briefing for all three Councils on 7 November 2025. This focussed on:
 - shareholding options, decision-making roles and responsibilities; and
 - the approach to involving mana whenua partners in governance and decisionmaking as part of the Shareholders Committee.
- 3.9 There was general acceptance of establishing a Shareholders Committee as the basis for collective decision-making by the three shareholder Councils. Two characteristics were noted:
 - It will be a joint committee under the Local Government Act 2002, and thus subject to the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act ('LGOIMA") in the same way that Councils are (in relation to both official information and meetings).
 - Council must formally appoint all members (including any Mana whenua representatives nominated by Iwi), and delegate the necessary powers to make decisions on their behalf to those members (based on the content of the Shareholders' Agreement).
- 3.10 The Shareholders Committee's major functions are:
 - appointment of directors to the WS-CCO Board
 - developing, adopting and providing a Statement of Expectations to Central Districts Water (which is to inform the decisions made by the company)

- commenting on the Water Services Strategy developed by Central Districts Water, but not approving (the WSS is a document comparable to Councils' longterm plans)
- 3.11 The proposed governance structure and accountabilities are depicted below:



- 3.12 There was general agreement to the principle of having an independent non-voting chairperson of the Shareholders Committee. This will provide for the appointment, by the remaining members of the Shareholders Committee, of a person who can bring relevant skills, knowledge, or expertise (including in relation to governance) to the business of the Committee, be a facilitator for the Committee's discussions, and help with the workload.
- 3.13 Clarification was provided on the following matters raised:
 - A skills matrix for appointing Directors is essential and is being developed.
 - Local pricing will be a topic for the future Statement of Expectations but will be addressed in the WSDP as approved. There will be price harmonisation within each Council area.
 - The borrowing through the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) is not affected by any credit rating by an external agency such as S&P.
 - The Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) cannot require Central Districts Water to accept another council as a shareholder in the Water Organisation- but it can require another council to negotiate entry with the three existing shareholding councils in the interests of providing a more financially sustainable delivery of water services.
 - Mixed rural water supplies in Rangitīkei will not be transferred to Central Districts Water.

During discussion, four issues emerged where further consideration was needed before finalising the provisions of the Constitution and the Shareholders' Agreement. These were:

- 1. Should payment of a dividend (i.e. a distribution) to shareholders be permitted?
- 2. Should shareholders be required to consult with their respective councils and gain their endorsement before approving the Statement of Expectations?
- 3. What is the optimum size of the Shareholders Committee?
- 4. How should mana whenua be represented on the Shareholder Committee?
- 3.14 A separate briefing was prepared in conjunction with Simpson Grierson and Morrison Low for discussion with each Council. This is included as Attachment 4. It identified the relevant statutory provisions, options, and what other multi-council Water Organisations are doing, posed some questions and provided an overall evaluation. This discussion paper was circulated to each Council. It was also discussed at workshops on 19 November 2025 (Horowhenua), 27 November 2025 (Rangitīkei). Feedback and questions were requested from Palmerston North Elected Members by email. The proposed position that takes into account all of the three Council's views, and reflected in the foundation documents, is:

1. Dividends

The Constitution prohibits the payment of dividends. To pay dividends would require the unanimous decision of all shareholder Councils to amend the clause relating to dividends. As a second step, the approval to pay dividends would require the new approval process in the Constitution to followed.

2. Requirement for consultation on the Statement of Expectations

No specific requirement: this is a matter for the delegation given by each Council to its appointed representatives on the Shareholders Committee (so could be an instruction in that delegation), along with a general expectation that the representatives would keep the Council informed of progress by the Committee.

3. Size of Shareholders Committee

Three representatives per Council, one of whom will be a mana whenua representative.

An independent non-voting Chair.

4. Mana whenua representation

Three mana whenua representatives in total - being one of each Council's three representatives. (The Mana whenua representatives would be recommended by the Mana whenua Roopū (Ngā Tapuwae o Hau), and then confirmed by the relevant Council). It is proposed that a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) be negotiated and entered into between Ngā Tapuwae o Hau, the three councils and Central Districts Water that records the mechanism to make recommendations and any other relevant matters relating to the Shareholders Committee or the relationship between the four parties.

3.15 The table below summarises where the details of the key matters in the decision-making table are included in the documents.

Constitution
Key Matters & Clause

Shareholder role in Water Services Strategy and Clause 3.2 Annual Budget

Dividends Clause 8
Size and composition of the WS-CCO Board Clause 12.2
Board skills requirement Clause 12.5
Board member term and reappointment Clause 12.6

Shareholders' Agreement

Share allocation
Schedule 1
Clause 2.2, 7.2
Board member term and reappointment
Establishment of the Shareholders Committee
Schedules 1 & 3
Clause 6.1

Size and composition of the Shareholders

Committee

Clause 6.1

Schedule 1

Clause 6.2

Iwi participation in the Shareholders Committee

Schedule 3

Decision making framework Clause 5.1 (Note clause 12.11 Constitution)

Schedule 2 & 3

Shareholder exit Clauses 9.5 and 9.7

Schedule 1

3.16 Drafts of the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement were circulated on 28 November 2025 to Elected Members of the three Councils. A table has been prepared to show the changes made from these drafts to the final versions as attached to this report: this is provided as *Attachment 5*.

4. Mana whenua

- 4.1 Council has various legislative obligations to consider the views of mana whenua in its decision-making. In particular, Parts 2 and 6 of the Local Government Act 2002 provide principles and requirements for local authorities that are intended to facilitate participation by Māori in local authority decision-making processes. These obligations are not affected by the establishment of the Water Organisation. However, the obligations are relevant to how the Councils undertake their decision-making as shareholders of the Water Organisation.
- 4.2 The following table sets out the iwi across the three Councils:

Horowhenua District Council	Muaūpoko	
	Rangitane o Manawatū	
	Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga	Ngāti Turanga Ngāti Rākau Ngāti Te Au Ngāti Takihiku Ngāti Ngārongo Ngāti Whakatere Ngāti Pareraukawa Ngāti Huia ki Poroutawhao Ngāti Huia ki Matau Ngāti Kikopiri Ngāti Hikitanga Ngāti Tukorehe Ngāti Wehi
Rangitīkei District Council	Ngāti Parewahawaha	
	Nga Wairiki Ngāti Apa	Ngā Ariki

	Ngāti Kauae/Tauira Ngā Wairiki ki Uta Kauangaroa Whangaehu
Ngāti Hinemanu/Ngāti Paki	
Mōkai Pātea	Ngāti Hauiti
	Ngāti Whitikaupeka
	Ngāti Tamakōpiri
	Ngāi Te Ohuake
Ngāti Rangitūhia	
Rātana Community	

- 4.3 These Iwi established a Roopū (Ngā Tapuwae o Hau) as the principal contact for the three Councils in discussing the transition programme and Iwi involvement.
- 4.4 At the hui hosted by Rangimarie Marae on 19 August 2025, all parties, including Councils, acknowledged the importance of partnership, and Māori contribution to decision-making.
- 4.5 Ngā Tapuwae o Hau's legal advisor was provided with a copy of the decision-making table prepared by Simpson Grierson.

5. Options considered

5.1 A summary of the options considered is included in the table below.

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1 Approve the attached Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement	 Aligns with the decisions the three Councils have made to date Is consistent with the timeframes and commitments the Councils have made to Internal Affairs in their joint Water Services Delivery Plan to establish the Water Organisation. Documents give effect to agreements and understandings reached between partner Councils and Iwi. Provides the governance framework for effective delivery of water services across the three Council areas. 	No known disadvantage
2 Do not approve the attached Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement	No known advantage	 Does not align with the decisions which the three Councils have made to date. Does not deliver on the timeframes and commitments the Councils made to Internal Affairs in their Water Services Delivery Plan. Creates a possible risk of intervention by the Government, which will be focussed on implementing

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
		the commitments made in the WSDP.
		 Does not meet agreements and understandings reached with partner Councils and with iwi. Leaves the Councils in limbo with no defined governance framework for delivering water services across their area.

5.2 Option 1 is recommended. Approving the Constitution and the Shareholders' Agreement enables the establishment of the joint Water Organisation to continue on its planned timeframes and ensures the three Councils meet the commitments made in their Water Services Delivery Plan.

6. Financial implications

6.1 While there are no immediate financial implications with adopting the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement, this allows the next phase of the establishment of Central Districts Water to commence, which has been budgeted and provisioned for in the WSDP. The Collaboration Agreement includes a budget for getting Central Districts Water to be operational: it notes that the transition costs up until 30 June 2027 will be debt funded and transferred to Central Districts Water.

7. Impact on strategic risks

7.1 Delayed appointment of the Board of Directors

Adopting the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement enables the formal establishment of the Shareholders Committee, which is the forum that will be responsible for appointing the Water Organisation's Board of Directors - and it is the Board's role to appoint the Chief Executive. The recommended option addresses the risk of director appointments becoming delayed, as it:

- allows the Shareholders Committee to confirm the composition of the Board by April 2026,
- adheres to the implementation timeline in the WSDP (and thus not be an issue in the monitoring undertaken by DIA), and
- provides the maximum opportunity to ensure an efficient transition of water services from the three Councils and to negotiate service delivery requirements and the transfer agreements as required by law.

7.2 Delayed engagement with Iwi

 Including Iwi representation on the Shareholders Committee from the outset allows their perspectives to be shared with the Council shareholders and influence the Statement of Expectations to be provided to the Board. Inviting Iwi to join the workstreams will broaden Iwi understanding of the transition of

water services. The recommended option addresses the risk of engagement with Iwi being delayed, as it:

- demonstrates compliance with the statutory requirement to facilitate participation by Māori in local authority decision-making processes,
- supports input from iwi on appointing the Board, and
- provides recognition of te ao Māori.

8. Decision-making process

- 8.1 The three Councils' three waters networks are strategic assets under their respective Significance and Engagement Policies. The Councils have consulted with their communities on the future service delivery model in line with provisions in the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 and the Local Government Act 2002.
- 8.2 No further community consultation or engagement is required to make the decisions recommended in this report.

9. Next steps

- 9.1 All three Councils are considering these documents at meetings on 10 and 11 December 2025.
- 9.2 Following approval of the Shareholders' Agreement by each Council, which includes the terms of reference for the Shareholders Committee, the Councils and Iwi will confirm their nominated representatives to the Shareholders Committee, and delegate all necessary powers to the Committee. This will then enable continuation of the recruitment process of the Board of Directors initiated by the Project Oversight Group, and subsequently to make those Director appointments.
- 9.3 Central Districts Water will need to be legally incorporated and registered with the Companies Office, with the final Constitution uploaded to the Companies Office register.

Attachments:

- 1. Key decisions for foundation documents (under separate cover)
- 2. Constitution for Central Districts Water (under separate cover)
- 3. Shareholders'Agreement for Central Districts Water (under separate cover)
- 4. Options to address issues raised at briefing for Elected Members, 7 November 2025 (under separate cover)
- 5. Summary of changes made from drafts of Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement circulated 28 November 2025 (under separate cover)

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Local Water Done Well – Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement for the joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation known as Central Districts Water' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Rangitīkei District Council, as shareholder of Central Districts Water, approves the attached Constitution for Central Districts Water, and delegates to the Chief Executive to sign any documents required to approve the Constitution on behalf of the Rangitīkei District Council.

Recommendation 3

That the Rangitīkei District Council, as shareholder of Central Districts Water, approves the attached Shareholders' Agreement for Central Districts Water, and delegates to the Chief Executive to sign the Shareholders' Agreement on behalf of the Rangitīkei District Council.

Recommendation 4

That the Rangitīkei District Council delegates to the Chief Executive the ability to agree to any minor, non-material amendments to the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement prior to final approval, and to report back to the Council on any changes made under this delegation.

Recommendation 5

That the Rangitīkei District Council approves the establishment of a joint committee made up of representatives from across the Shareholding Councils and mana whenua partners, and endorses the terms of reference included in Schedule 3 of the Shareholders' Agreement.

Recommendation 6

That the Rangitīkei District Council notes, as the next step in establishing Central Districts Water as a joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation, that it will be required to appoint its representative(s) to the Shareholders Committee and delegate the power to make the decisions recorded in Section 2 of Schedule 3 of the Shareholders' Agreement.

Recommendation 7

That the Rangitīkei District Council delegates to the Chief Executive to proceed with the incorporation and registration of Central Districts Water with the Companies Office and all related formalities.

9.2 Adoption of Meeting Schedule 2026

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Authoriser: Katrina Gray, Group Manager - Strategy, Community and Democracy

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The reason for this report is to provide a draft meeting schedule for 2026 for Council's consideration and adoption.

2. Context

2.1 This is a standard report to receive the proposed 2026 meeting schedule, however, changes happen frequently, and these changes will be notified to councillors and to the community.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

- 3.1 Officers have considered the committee structure when producing the 2026 meeting schedule.
- 3.2 There has been a change from previous schedules that the Council meetings are proposed to occur on the second Thursday of each month starting at 9.30am (with additional meetings included as required e.g. Annual Plan or Annual Report).
- 3.3 Council committee meetings are proposed to be held on the last Thursday of each month, with workshops on alternate Thursdays.
- 3.4 The schedule has been made to accommodate LGNZ events, in these cases, committees have been moved to the Thursday following.
- 3.5 It is proposed that no Council or committee meetings are held in the month of July.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

5.1 There are no impacts on Council's strategic risk.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 There are no matters that impact on Council's Strategic Framework associated with this report.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 Officers are not aware of mana whenua implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

8.1 There are no climate change impacts associated with this report.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 There are no statutory implications associated with this report.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 This decision is considered to have low significance.

Attachments:

1. 2026 Meetings Calendar J.

Recommendation 1

That the report Adoption of Meeting Schedule 2026 is received.

Recommendation 2

That Council adopts the Meeting Schedule 2026 with / without [delete one] amendment.

11 December 2025

Calendar 2026

Thu			iiddi EVEV			
2 Fri		January				February
3 Sat 4 Sun 4 Wed 5 Thu 6 Fri Waitangi Day 7 Sat 8 Sun 9 Fri 9 Mon 6 30pm Huntenville Rural Water Scheme 6 30pm Huntenville Community Committee 9 Mon 6 50pm Raisana Community Committee 10 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	1	Thu	New Year's Day	1	Sun	
4 Sun 5 Mon 6 Tue 7 Wed 8 Thu 9 Fri 10 Sat 11 Sat 12 Mon 13 Tue 14 Wed 15 Thu 16 Fri 17 Sat 18 Sun 19 Mon 10 Sup Mentange Community Committee 11 Wed 12 Mon 13 Tue 14 Wed 15 Thu 16 Fri 17 Sat 18 Sun 19 Mon 17 Tue 20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26	2	Fri	Day after New Year's Day	2	Mon	
5	3	Sat		3	Tue	
6	4	Sun		4	Wed	
6						
7	5	Mon		5	Thu	
8	6	Tue		6	Fri	Waitangi Day
9	7	Wed		7	Sat	
9	8	Thu		8	Sun	
10 Sat	0			Q		4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme
11 Sun						10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeti
11 Wed 6.00pm Marton Community Committee 9.30am Council Meeting 12 Thu Followed by Council Workshop 13 Fri 14 Sat 15 Sun 16 Mon 17 Tue 18 Sun 16 Mon 17 Tue 18 Wed 6.00pm Bulls Community Committee 9.30am Council Workshop 17 Tue 18 Wed 6.00pm Bulls Community Committee 19 Mon Wellington Anniversary 19 Thu 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Sat 22 Sun 25 Sun 26 Mon 26 Thu 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri Fri 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri 30 Sat 30 S	10	Sat		10	Tue	6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting 5.30pm Taihape Community Board
12 Mon	11	Sun		11	Wed	6.00pm Marton Community Committee
14 Wed 15 Thu 16 Fri 17 Sat 18 Sun 19 Mon 20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 30 Fri 30 Fri 14 Sat 15 Sun 16 Mon 20 Tue 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 30 Fri 15 Sun 17 Tue 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Sat 17 Tue 25 Sun 26 Thu 27 Fri 28 Sat <	12	Mon		12	Thu	Followed by Council Workshop
15 Thu 16 Fri 17 Sat 18 Sun 17 Tue 18 Sun 18 Wed 6.00pm Bulls Community Committee 19 Mon Wellington Anniversary 19 Thu 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 7 Fri 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1	13	Tue		13	Fri	
16 Fri 17 Sat 18 Sun 19 Mon 20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Sun 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	14	Wed		14	Sat	
17 Sat 18 Sun 19 Mon 20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 20 Fri 20 Fri 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	15	Thu		15	Sun	
18 Sun 19 Mon Wellington Anniversary 20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 19 Thu 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	16	Fri		16	Mon	
19 Mon Wellington Anniversary 19 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Fri 23 Mon 24 Sat 25 Sun 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop 19 Thu	17	Sat		17	Tue	
19 Mon Wellington Anniversary 19 Thu 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Fri 23 Mon 24 Sat 25 Sun 25 Wed 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 19 Thu 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat 28 Sat 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 20 Fri 21 Sat 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat 29 Sat 20	18	Sun		18	Wed	
20 Tue 21 Wed 22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri	19	Mon	Wellington Anniversary	19	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee
22 Thu 23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 22 Sun 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	20	Tue		20	Fri	
23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	21	Wed		21	Sat	
23 Fri 24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 23 Mon 24 Tue 25 Wed 26 Thu LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat	22	Thu		22	Sun	
24 Sat 25 Sun 26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri						
25 Sun 25 Wed 26 Mon 26 Thu LGNZ All of Local Government 27 Tue 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Wed 28 Sat 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri						
26 Mon 27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri 26 Thu LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat						
27 Tue 28 Wed 29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 27 Fri LGNZ Sector meetings 28 Sat 29 Tri 29 Tri 20 Tri 2						I GNZ All of Local Government
28 Wed						
29 Thu 9.30am Council Workshop (if needed) 30 Fri	Í					LGNZ Sector meetings
30 Fri				28	Sat	
	29	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop (if needed)			
	30	Fri				
31 Sat	31	Sat				

Updated – 3 December 2025

	March			
1	Sun			
2	Mon			
3	Tue	4.00pm Erewhon Rural Water Scheme		
4	Wed			
5	Thu	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop 1pm Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting Followed by Finance Performance Committee Workshop		
6	Fri			
7	Sat			
8	Sun			
9	Mon			
10	Tue			
11	Wed			
12	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop		
13	Fri			
14	Sat			
15	Sun			
16	Mon			
17	Tue			
18	Wed			
19	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop		
20	Fri			
21	Sat			
22	Sun			
23	Mon			
24	Tue			
25	Wed	_		
26	Thu	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting 1pm Finance Performance Committee Meeting		
27	Fri			
28	Sat			
29	Sun			
30	Mon			
31	Tue			

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Calendar 2026

	April				
1	Wed				
2	Thu				
3	Fri	Good Friday			
4	Sat				
5	Sun				
6	Mon	Easter Monday			
7	Tue				
8	Wed				
9	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting To follow Council Workshop			
10	Fri				
11	Sat				
12	Sun				
13	Mon	4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme 6.30pm Hunterville Community Committee			
14	Tue	10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeting 6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting			
15	Wed	5.30pm Taihape Community Board 6.00pm Marton Community Committee			
16	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee			
17	Fri	7.00pm Turakina Community Committee			
18	Sat				
19	Sun				
20	Mon				
21	Tue				
22	Wed	6.00pm Bulls Community Committee			
23	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting – Annual Plan Hearing			
24	Fri				
		ANZAC Day			
25	Sat				
26	Sun				
27	Mon	Anzac Day - observed			
28	Tue				
29	Wed	0.20am Accate/Infractructura Committee Westerhan			
30	Thu	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop 1pm Finance Performance Committee Workshop Followed by Community Grants Committee Meeting			

		May	
1	Fri		
2	Sat		
3	Sun		
4	Mon		
5	Tue		
6	Wed		
7	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
8	Fri		
9	Sat		
10	Sun		
11	Mon		
12	Tue		
13	Wed		
14	Thu	LGNZ sector meetings	
15	Fri	LGNZ sector meetings	
16	Sat		
17	Sun		
18	Mon		
19	Tue		
20	Wed	5.30pm Creative Communities Meeting	
21	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting (Annual Plan deliberations) Followed by Council Workshop	
22	Fri		
23	Sat		
24	Sun		
L-T	Cuii		
25	Mon		
26	Tue		
27	Wed		
28	Thi	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting 1pm Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting Followed by Finance Performance Committee Meeting	
	Thu	Tonowed by Finance Fenormance Committee wieeling	
29	Fri		
30	Sat		
31	Sun		

	June			
1	Mon	King's Birthday		
2	Tue	4.00pm Erewhon Rural Water Scheme		
3	Wed			
4	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop		
5	Fri			
6	Sat			
7	Sun	4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme		
8	Mon	6.30pm Hunterville Community Committee 10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeting		
9	Tue	6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting		
10	Wed	5.30pm Taihape Community Board 6.00pm Marton Community Committee		
11	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting <i>Followed by</i> Council Workshop 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee		
12	Fri			
13	Sat			
14	Sun			
15	Mon			
16	Tue			
17	Wed	6.00pm Bulls Community Committee		
18	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop		
19	Fri			
20	Sat			
21	Sun			
22	Mon			
23	Tue			
24	Wed			
25	Thu	9.30am Council meeting (adopt Annual Plan) Followed by Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop 1pm Finance Performance Committee Workshop		
26	Fri	, manage desiration of the state of the stat		
27	Sat			
28	Sun			
29	Mon			
30	Tue			

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Calendar 2026

July			
1	Wed		
2	Thu		
3	Fri		
4	Sat		
5	Sun		
6	Mon		
7	Tue		
8	Wed		
9	Thu		
10	Fri	Matariki	
11	Sat		
12	Sun		
13	Mon		
14	Tue		
15	Wed		
16	Thu		
17	Fri		
18	Sat		
19	Sun		
20	Mon		
21	Tue		
22	Wed		
23	Thu		
24	Fri		
25	Sat		
26	Sun		
27	Mon	LGNZ SuperLocal and LGNZ AGM	
28	Tue	LGNZ SuperLocal and LGNZ AGM	
29	Wed	LGNZ SuperLocal and LGNZ AGM	
30	Thu	LGNZ SuperLocal and LGNZ AGM	
31	Fri		

August			
1	Sat		
2	Sun		
3	Mon		
4	Tue		
5	Wed		
6	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
7	Fri		
8	Sat		
9	Sun		
10	Mon	4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme	
		6.30pm Hunterville Community Committee 10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeting	
11	Tue	6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting 5.30pm Taihape Community Board	
12	Wed	6.00pm Marton Community Committee	
		9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop	
13	Thu	7.00pm Turakina Community Committee	
14	Fri		
15	Sat		
16	Sun		
17	Mon		
18	Tue		
19	Wed	6.00pm Bulls Community Committee	
20	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
21	Fri		
22	Sat		
23	Sun		
24	Mon		
25	Tue		
26	Wed		
	The	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting 1pm Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting	
27	Thu	Followed by Finance Performance Committee Meeting	
28	Fri		
29	Sat		
30	Sun		
31	Mon		

		September
1	Tue	4.00pm Erewhon Rural Water Scheme
2	Wed	
3	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop
4	Fri	
5	Sat	
6	Sun	
7	Mon	
8	Tue	
9	Wed	
10	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop
11	Fri	
12	Sat	
13	Sun	
14	Mon	
15	Tue	
16	Wed	
17	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop
18	Fri	
19	Sat	
20	Sun	
21	Mon	
22	Tue	
23	Wed	
24	Thu	9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop 1pm Finance Performance Committee Workshop
25	Fri	
26	Sat	
27	Sun	
28	Mon	
29	Tue	
30	Wed	

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October			
1	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
2	Fri		
3	Sat		
4	Sun		
5	Mon		
6	Tue		
7	Wed		
8	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop	
9	Fri		
10	Sat		
11	Sun		
12	Mon	4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme 6.30pm Hunterville Community Committee	
13	Tue	10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeting 6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting	
14	Wed	5.30pm Taihape Community Board 6.00pm Marton Community Committee	
15	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop 7.00pm Turakina Community Committee	
16	Fri		
17	Sat		
18	Sun		
19	Mon		
20	Tue		
21	Wed	6.00pm Bulls Community Committee	
22	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
23	Fri		
24	Sat		
25	Sun		
26	Mon	Labour Day	
27	Tue		
28	Wed		
29	Thu	9.30am Council meeting (Adopt Annual Report) Followed by Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting 1pm Finance Performance Committee Meeting	
30	Fri		
31	Sat		

November			
1	Sun		
2	Mon		
3	Tue		
4	Wed		
5	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
6	Fri		
7	Sat		
8	Sun		
9	Mon		
10	Tue		
11	Wed		
12	Thu	9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop	
13	Fri		
14	Sat		
15	Sun		
16	Mon		
17	Tue		
18	Wed	5.30pm Creative Communities Meeting	
19	Thu	9.30am Council Workshop	
20	Fri		
21	Sat		
22	Sun		
23	Mon		
24	Tue		
25	Wed		
26	Thu	LGNZ All of local government	
27	Fri	LGNZ Sector meetings	
28	Sat		
29	Sun		
30	Mon		

	December			
1	Tue	4.00pm Erewhon Rural Water Scheme		
2	Wed			
		9.30am Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop 1pm Risk/Assurance Committee Meeting		
3	Thu	Followed by Finance Performance Committee Workshop		
4	Fri			
5	Sat			
6	Sun			
7	Mon	4.00pm Hunterville Rural Water Scheme 6.30pm Hunterville Community Committee		
8	Tue	10.00-11.00 TRAK Hui / 11.00-1.30pm TRAK Meeting 6.30pm Ratana Community Board Meeting		
0	rue	5.30pm Taihape Community Board		
9	Wed	6.00pm Marton Community Committee 9.30am Council Meeting Followed by Council Workshop		
10	Thu	7.00pm Turakina Community Committee		
11	Fri			
12	Sat			
13	Sun			
14	Mon			
15	Tue			
16	Wed	6.00pm Bulls Community Committee		
17	Thu			
18	Fri			
19	Sat			
20	Sun			
21	Mon			
22	Tue			
23	Wed			
24	Thu			
25	Fri	Christmas Day		
26	Sat	Boxing Day		
27	Sun			
28	Mon	Boxing Day - observed		
29	Tue			
30	Wed			
31	Thu			

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10 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 27 November 2025
- 2. Tender Recommendation Report Three Waters Capital Delivery

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
10.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting - 27 November 2025	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 27 November meeting.	S48(1)(a)
10.2 - Tender Recommendation Report - Three Waters Capital Delivery	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	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.

11 Open Meeting