



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 12 March 2026
Time: 10.00am
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei 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 Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 12 March 2026 at 10.00am.

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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 25 February 2026 are attached.

Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 25 February 2026

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 February 2026 **[as amended/without amendment]** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES

ITEM 6.1

ATTACHMENT 1

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 25 February 2026

Time: 10.00am

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

- Cr Dave Wilson
- Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
- Cr Jeff Wong
- Cr Fi Dalgety
- Cr Paul Sharland
- Cr Alan Buckendahl
- Cr Diana Baird
- Cr John Hainsworth
- Cr Sandra Field
- Cr Graeme O'Fee

In attendance

- Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
- Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy
- Ms Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager
- Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Order of Business

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7 **Reports for Decision** 4

 7.1 Adoption of Proposed Plan Change 3 for Notification 4

 7.2 Triennial Agreement Hawke's Bay Region 2025-2028 4

8 **Meeting Closed.** 5

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

Unconfirmed

1 Welcome / Prayer

Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson opened the meeting and Cr O'Fee read the Council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number **26/RDC/022**

The apologies from Cr C Raukawa and HWTM A Watson for absence on Council business be received.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

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 **26/RDC/023**

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 February 2026 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Adoption of Proposed Plan Change 3 for Notification

Councillors highlighted the significant work undertaken to reach this stage, particularly the numerous workshops held throughout the process. They noted the exemption that allowed this work to proceed following the plan stop put in place the previous year.

Councillors acknowledged Ms Gower's contribution to Plan Change 3 to this point, as well as Ms Gray's initial work on the Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond – Spatial Plan.

Councillors further commented that, while the future of development in the District cannot be predicted with certainty, this work enables Council to provide for long-term growth and take a future-focused approach.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/024

That this report Adoption of Proposed Plan Change 3 for Notification be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/025

That Council adopts Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth and the associated Section 32 Evaluation Report for the purpose of public notification in accordance with Clause 5 of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991.

AND

That officers be authorised to proceed with public notification of Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth, in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Cr J Wong/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/026

That, if necessary, the Chief Executive be authorised (prior to public notification) to correct any minor errors or omissions in the text and maps of Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth and the associated Section 32 Evaluation Report.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

7.2 Triennial Agreement Hawke's Bay Region 2025-2028

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/027

That the report Triennial Agreement Hawke's Bay Region 2025-2028 be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

ITEM 6.1

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/028

That, His Worship the Mayor be delegated authority to sign the 2026 Triennial Agreement for the Hawke’s Bay Region.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

ATTACHMENT 1

8 Meeting Closed.

The meeting closed at 10.20am

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 March 2026.

.....
Chairperson

Unconfirmed

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

1.1 There are no current follow up actions for Council Meeting.

2. Decision Making Process

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

Recommendation

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

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - March 2026

Author: **Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor**

1. Everyone I am sure will be aware of the recent extreme weather event, however I would like to summarise events and thank a number of people -
 - I was advised on 15 February of what was described as the potential for an unprecedented wind/rain event centred on the northern areas of the Rangitikei catchment. I made the call to declare a Civil Defence State of Emergency as a pre-emptive step.
 - Tararua had already declared on the back of existing flooding and with two districts now declaring that made it a Regional or Horizons declaration.
 - It is important to note that if two districts declare in our region, it gives all the other districts the powers of declaration.
 - Carol our CE had already assembled our senior staff to provide the information needed.
 - Once declaration happens, trained controllers take over managing the response.
 - Minister Mitchell praised the early declarations - "There is very little downside from making a declaration and not needing it rather than wishing you had".
 - Even before the process of declaration happened people were being warned especially farmers and people near rivers in the northern area.
 - Very high levels of rainfall were predicted (up to 300mm) in a very short space of time. If that had happened the floods on the Rangitikei, Turakina and Whangaehu Rivers would have been significantly greater than 2004.
 - It is worth noting that predictions and modelling did not indicate a flood event through Marton via the Tutaenui.
 - The advance warnings/river height and modelling was accurate against rainfall recorded throughout the event.
 - So what happened –
 - i) Flooding was nowhere near what was initially predicted with only, I think, the Turakina breaching banks for a short duration on the Monday night.
 - ii) However the wind damage was extreme resulting in –
 - a. Thousands of homes without power for an extended time;
 - b. State highways and many local roads closed with both slips and numerous tree falls;
 - c. Commercial forests fared badly with up to 1000ha of trees decimated. (The recovery of mature trees may be possible but expensive and after about 6 weeks the pines have little to no value).
 - d. Our Parks and Reserves likewise were closed for safety reasons and full clean-up will take a long time.
 - e. Crop damage is variable – some maize crops may not be recoverable but many will suffer a drop in value along with some barley crops.
 - f. Stock losses have occurred – I am aware of one farmer losing 200 lambs through exposure and there will be more.

The combined cost to the district is substantial and Council losses/costs will be reported on later.

- Council will apply for an increased roading rate which has been given by NZTA already as an existing (FAR) Financial Assistance Rate increased by 20% for emergency works. (This means that approximately 85% of approved emergency work will be paid by Government to roading).
- Council will look at what other Government funds may be possible to assist the district.
- I thank –
 - i) Staff, Councillors and Civil Defence staff, Police etc for absolutely stepping up in this event.
 - ii) Downer are our new contractors and they have been exceptional in their response opening up roads in the short term by cutting their way through with chainsaws and will need to go back to clean up debris.
 - iii) Powerco teams have been incredible, working for days in appalling and at times dangerous conditions. This wind damage has been unprecedented in our history.
 - iv) Many of our roads were opened by farmers with their machinery at their cost in what could be described as a practical rural approach and I thank them.
 - v) The community and marae reaction has been fantastic – you have checked on others, shared generators, at times cooked communally on BBQs and have been patient.

Sadly these events once thought of as being a 1:100 year event are the new “norm” in New Zealand. Many councils in their Annual Plan and Long Term Plans are now starting to consider a separate rate provision to provide resilience.

2. On Thursday 26 February I attended Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) meetings in Wellington described as All of Government and a meeting for Rural and Provincial Mayors and Councillors. The “takeouts” for Thursday’s All of Government meeting were: –
 - i) LGNZ opened the meeting with comments made by President Rehette Stoltz, Vice-President Dan Gordon and Scott Necklen Acting CE -
 - a. Rehette –
 - “We want to work with and serve all councils” (a pointed reminder that Auckland and Christchurch are not financial members).
 - “We want to work with Government to find common ground”.
 - “We want Government to realise that we have new leadership in LGNZ”.
 - b. Dan –
 - LGNZ needs to be apolitical and work with all political parties.
 - There will be more regular zoom updates to the membership
 - “Cost increases proposed for membership originally modelled at a 9.5% increase have now been reduced to 3.1%” (financial prudence).
 - c. Rehette commented that recent discussions with the Prime Minister had been positive and LGNZ’s position on regional councils would mean that Mayors should focus on the process for restructure and leave the running of regional councils operationally to regional councils at least in the short term. This seemed to be well received by Government.
 - d. LGNZ’s priorities will be –
 - a) A cost effective Local Government;
 - b) A responsive and accountable Local Government;

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- c) Meeting current and future needs for infrastructure; and
 - d) Resilient community economics and environment.
 - Note - there was question from the floor to say “what about the Treaty?”
 - Nick Smith, Mayor of Nelson, commented that Local Government owned \$200B worth of assets – a greater asset position than Central Government. (He is suggesting that we have the financial power to call the shots).
 - In response to questions from the floor about Auckland and Christchurch not being present, Mayor Grant Smith (Metro Mayor) said there needed to be a value proposition for them but they are reconsidering.
- ii) The second session was a panel discussion on New Zealand Economic Landscape. Dr Eric Crampton CE of the Economist NZ Initiative and John Ballingall made the following points:-
- There is volatility in the world markets described as the Trump Effect;
 - Our exports are now going to more diverse markets;
 - Many countries want to invest in New Zealand which is seen as a safe haven;
 - Our financial outlook is reasonably stable;
 - There is concern about the outflow of New Zealand citizens to offshore largely Australia;
 - The wage pressure is forecast to lift.

Their conversations then turned to general things such as –

- You shouldn't be scared of AI;
 - Central Government reforms are challenging but needed and suggested that councils should impose a set levy per year on capex programmes to aid inter-generational equity.
- iii) The address by Deputy Prime Minister David Seymour –
- Opened by saying “Local Government is thankless but essential”.
 - Made a series of comments on the Regulatory Standards Bill where council regulations will need to be audited by Central Government.
 - Affordability (rates) are directly related to productivity (in relation to the cost of producing things in New Zealand, costs are too high because regulations get in the way).
 - “Developers do not want to invest in New Zealand because of regulations”.
 - “We inflict costs on people through unneeded regulations”.
 - Quoted methane targets (agriculture) limited productivity.
 - “We need to accept risks” was a common theme.
 - “Sister City relationships have no benefit to ratepayers in New Zealand”.
 - The theme continued with costs councils face to discharge wastewater to land is unacceptable.
 - Note – very good comment from Mayor Scott (Tararua) – “would you then reduce the audit costs that our councils face?”.
- iv) Emergency Management Update by Hon Mark Mitchell (online)
- Acknowledged/praised the Local Government sector

- Climatic events should be “locally lead but Government supported”.
 - The biggest enemy for the sector is complacency.
 - Pre-positioning early with declarations is great.
 - Acknowledged the leadership of Tauranga Mayor Mahe.
 - Made comment that mayors should never be excluded from response meetings.
 - Common failure points for New Zealand are river mouths (reference to Wairoa etc).
 - **There have been 31 declarations by councils in the last 2 years!!**
 - 61% of New Zealand is in some sort of recovery mode.
 - When questioned about the battery power/life of the cell network his response was “yes this is a known issue and we are working towards a solution”.
 - Note – Minister Mitchell has the total respect of the sector.
- v) Panel discussion on regulatory relief under the new RMA system – Sandra Faulkner (Federated Farmers), Vincent Holloway (Brookfield Developments) and Greg Severinsen (Director Environmental Defence Society). Relevant concerns from the panel -
- There is uncertainty around the ministerial powers;
 - There is an issue where councils are being forced to compensate landowners over land they own which is being protected;
 - That uncertainty will lead to litigation;
 - From Feds - “the sector is very poorly informed”.
- vi) Oppostioin view - Damien O’Connor Labour Department spokesperson on Trade, Regional Deals/Land Information -
- Acknowledged sector
 - “RMA reform is a heaven for lawyers”.
 - The current Government blames and intimidates Local Government
 - We are against a review of regional councils
 - We are against rates capping
- This section was all a pre-election speech

Thursday afternoon session -

- vii) Commerce Commission (com-com) presentation by Dr John Small (Chair) made the following comments -
- Com-com will increase the role of Local Government;
 - Com-com has the ability to set prices in other fields (is this a warning for the new entities?);
 - Com-com has broad regulatory powers;
 - The Commission was asked by Government to be the regulator in Three Waters (they didn’t go searching for the role);
 - They will work closely with the water regulator Taumata Arowai;
 - They will be publishing this week the first tranche of how the Commission will operate;
 - The system will probably work similar to the electricity sector which was the first to be regulated in this way;
 - There will be reporting from all entities and the Commission will publicise comparisons between entities;

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- The Commission will be looking at asset management systems and management practice.
 - The Commerce Commission was questioned re –
 - Do they have the technical skills to do the work (the answer was yes);
 - The audit charges are already high for councils – these are added charges by way of a levy, is this fair? (the answer was that future guidance will be provided here).
- viii) Simon Upton – Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment -
- He has powers under S16 of the Environment Act with particular reference to 16(1)(a) (1986?);
 - He has oversight of systems and laws that control the environment;
 - He has read many of the submissions from LGNZ sector;
 - His comments were –
 - “Regional councils have become the whipping boy for Government”;
 - His own submission to the Crown is “that the Crown has not been clear about the role and mechanism that is to be used”, i.e. a lack of clarity;
 - Some existing functions should not be with regional councils but should be nationally lead;
 - There is a need to review regional boundaries (a view that I share);
 - “The simplest way of reform would have been to go to unitary authorities”.
 - From me – Simon was very well received and it is interesting to me that as the Commissioner he was treated the same as all other submitters!
- ix) Panel discussion - Understanding the Political Environment - players were Tracey Martin (ex NZ First), David Farrar (Kiwi Blogger), Tai Ahu (Maori Law Society)
- Their combined view was that election will be very close.
 - Local Government needs to be very clear as to what it wants from each party.
- x) Navigating Rates Capping – lead by Wade Crockett, Monique Davidson, Leonie Rae all CEs of Local Government plus Nick Brunnsden as Principal Economist. They talked about the impact of rates capping -
- There will be a decrease in services, e.g. library hours;
 - They noted that the issue is how do we survive rates capping in the long term!
 - Conversation around the need for user pays;
 - The need for line by line examination of costs etc.
- xi) Keynote address by Transit Bus Fleet (privately owned company). This was effectively a celebration of 100 years of ownership and made comments about the investment into electric busses.
- xii) The day ended with a tour of Parliament which was interesting.

Day 2 - Rural & Provincial Sector Meeting

- i) Quite a long first session with updates/introductions of new mayors across the sector.
- ii) The session was interrupted by Parliament's practice evacuation (why timetable it for what would be a challenging day).
- iii) Sessions on value of submissions to Government. The view here is the realisation that submissions are important to do but have little chance of success.
- iv) Taumata Arowai, key points –
 - Domestic suppliers for more than 25 people will need to be registered by November 2028 and compliant by 2030;
 - If less than 25 people there is no need to register.
- v) Session on contrary view to the size of authorities (scale) being important – speakers Ross Copeland who referred by the mythical economies of scale and Dr Oliver Hartwich's view of scale versus reality. These comments were designed to indicate that scale doesn't always lead to efficiency.
- vi) "Fireside Chat" Navigating Structural Changes of Government lead by Mayor Scott (Taranaki) and Mayor Fran Wilde (South Wairarapa). Fran's view is that amalgamation must happen but unitary authorities is a separate conversation. Scott's view – "we do not have to be connected to work together" and the value of shared services.

3. Central Districts Water

- Shareholders, through an appointment committee will be in a position very shortly to name the new directors of the entity.
- Applications for the entity directors were very strong in terms of quality.
- The entity is moving at pace and is highly regarded by the Government and other councils, some of whom are struggling.
- On 13 February at the Joint Shareholders Committee – Central Districts Waters, Chris Gallavin was appointed Independent Chair for the period 13 February 2026 to 30 June 2027. Mayor Andy Watson was appointed Deputy Chair.
- The Committee also provided recommendations for amendments of the Shareholder Agreement as attached in relation to clause 2 and clause 6. The recommendation for Council to agree is included below.
- Upcoming meetings for the Joint Shareholder Committee are scheduled for 13 March, 27 March, and 30 April 2026 at the Palmerston North City Council Chambers. Subsequent meetings are also intended to be held in Horowhenua and Rangitikei.

4. The survivors who suffered abuse under care at Lake Alice Hospital gathered with Minister Erica Stanford to unveil a memorial at Lake Alice on 21 February. The principal organiser Robyn Dandy and survivors asked that the event be personal with little fanfare. Council, myself and our CE Carol have supported this event funded largely by the Abuse Under Care Commission. The speakers were Robyn, Minister Stanford, myself and Suze Redmayne our local MP.

It was a very emotional day and confronting to hear the stories and the impacts. As such I have included in its entirety the Minister's speech with her permission as an appendix to this report. That speech says it all as an ugly truth. The memorial reflects on those who did not survive. The abuse did not encompass all of Lake Alice. Good people also worked there but the hospital will be remembered for what it became to many young defenceless children.

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5. Horizons Regional Council River Meetings – on 26 February Horizons held a meeting to update the Rangitikei District regarding their river control schemes. For me the date was unfortunate being a clash with the All of Government meeting in Wellington. Our controlled rivers are the Turakina, Tutaenui, Pourewa, Rangitikei, Makirikiri, Forest Road and Huanui drains. The meeting was attended by Councillors Dave Wilson and Sandra Field and they may wish to provide an update on the associated budgets, work schedules etc. The significant 2026/27 budgets for these rivers are – the Rangitikei \$1.26m (a 2% increase on budget) and the Tutaenui \$157k a 13% increase in budget driven by dam costs.

Last year's total spend by Horizons on capital river works was \$19m – an increase from \$10.5m the year before.

The Turakina River – virtually all work is channel maintenance. The Tutaenui features maintenance and retention with huge new compliance costs. The Scheme has 18 dams and 4 are classified as needing safety reports. The Rangitikei features significant spraying programmes hampered by difficult weather this summer and the Pourewa has 27 dams, 4 also needing safety reports.

6. Staff and Councillors have spent a considerable amount of time working on the Annual Plan which I hope will be released at this meeting. We are looking at a 6.4% projected rate increase down from what was originally proposed at 10.5%. A significant amount of work and hard decisions have gone into making that possible. As the plan is released you will be able to see the relative rate increases – please remember the 6.4% is an average and generally the higher rate increases have been across the rural sector.
7. I am one of the decision-makers as a governor on the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ). Recently there became the possibility of awarding extra funding and the Rangitikei has just picked up an additional \$85,000 plus GST to fund finding jobs for young and unemployed people. The success that James and Louise bring to this programme is incredible, consistently they have been in the top performers for the country. This extra funding will allow them to reach out to more people in terms of employment.
8. Last weekend I attended the Fest-a-Bull at Te Matapihi in Bulls. This was a free event ringfenced from the road to allow young children to be safely protected and was such a huge hit. I thought the live band playing was fantastic – congratulations Bulls on a great event!
9. Recently there has been a meeting in Hunterville regarding policing. A final decision is yet to be made but I think it will be favourable for Hunterville. What I would like to say is the process was one where the community could sit down with very senior regional and area commanders and understand the issues from both sides in an open and friendly manner.
10. I have used my powers under section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002 to appoint Mr Philip Jones as the Independent Chair of the Risk/Assurance Committee. I also wish to appoint the councillor members of this committee as Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Cr Fi Dalgety, Cr Jeff Wong. These are the chairs of our council committees.
11. Under similar powers, Councillor Diana Baird has been appointed to the Finance/Performance Committee and Policy/Planning Committee, and Cr Coral Raukawa and Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa on the Assets/Infrastructure Committee. These are a tidy up of appointments for councillors that were not in attendance at the Council meeting where the committees were initially established.
12. Two Ratana rangatahi have been accepted into the 2026 TUIA programme – sisters Mariaan Veuger and Moniek Veuger. The first Wananga is due to take place later in March at the Te

Kotahitanga Marae in Otorohanga. These appointments have been made possible this year because of the reduced costs of internal transport within NZ for them to attend the Wananga.

Mayor’s Engagements

Due to the new configuration of Council meetings that now fall in the middle of each month, the Mayor’s Engagements will be listed following this cycle.

February 2026

13	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended fortnightly Marton Water Strategy update with staff</p> <p>Attended meeting with staff regarding Environmental Bill submission</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water POG Meeting</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water Joint Shareholder Committee Meeting</p>
15	<p>Attended Manawatu-Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (MWCDEM) hui</p> <p>Attended Minister & Mayor Civil Defence online meeting</p>
16	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended monthly Economic Development meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended MWCDEM online meeting</p> <p>Attended Koitiata Beach to check on community/flooding/storm damage</p>
17	<p>Attended Zoom interview with ABC News Australia</p> <p>Attended Ratana to check on community/storm damage</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
18	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended monthly Comms Meeting with staff</p> <p>Attended MWCDEM State of Emergency Declaration online discussion</p> <p>Attended Bulls Community Committee meeting</p>
19	<p>Attended Bragging Breakfast in Hunterville</p> <p>Attended BA5 at Rangitikei Hire Centre</p> <p>Attended Turakina Community Committee meeting</p>
20	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended LGNZ Zoom with National Council</p> <p>Attended Risk & Assurance Chair Interviews</p> <p>Attended monthly RDC/Police catchup</p>
21	<p>Attended Lake Alice Memorial Unveiling</p>
23	<p>Attended Central Districts Water Director interviews</p>

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24	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs Fortnightly online meeting</p> <p>Attended meeting with ratepayer</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water POG online meeting</p> <p>Attended Defence Hub February Event in Ashhurst</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
25	Attended Mayor’s Taskforce for Jobs Membership forum online
26	Attended LGNZ All of Local Government meeting in Wellington
27	Attended LGNZ Rural & Provincial Sector meeting in Wellington
28	Attended Fest a Bull in Bulls

March 2026

1	Attended Scotts Ferry Community Meeting
2	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water Director interviews</p> <p>Attended Mayoral Forum Meeting</p>
3	<p>Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee meeting</p> <p>Attended Regional Transport Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water Director interviews</p> <p>Attended Omatane Rural Water Scheme meeting</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
4	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Mayor’s Briefing before Council with CE and staff</p> <p>Attended monthly Governors Q&A session with Executive Leadership Team</p> <p>Attended meeting with ratepayer</p> <p>Attended forestry visit re storm damage</p> <p>Attended Hunterville Policing meeting</p>
5	<p>Attended Assets/Infrastructure Committee Workshop</p> <p>Attended Finance/Performance Committee Workshop</p> <p>Attended Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee draft agenda meeting</p> <p>Attended Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Mayor’s online debrief</p> <p>Attended Marton Development Group Meeting</p>
6	<p>Attended 6 weekly Mayors Taskforce for Jobs catchup with staff</p> <p>Attended Accelerate35 Lead Team Meeting</p> <p>Attended Rural Community BBQ</p> <p>Attended meeting with new Youth Council</p>
9	Attended meeting with Chief Executive

	Attended meeting with ratepayers Attended TUIA mentor training online meeting Attended Defence Updates Relevant to the Manawatu meeting (Rangitikei hosting)
10	Attended Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs Fortnightly online meeting
11	Attended Northern Marae Tour with Elected Members and staff
12	To attend monthly Economic Development Meeting with staff To attend Council meeting and Council workshop

Attachments:

1. **Hon Erica Stanford - speech at Lake Alice Memorial Unveiling - February 2026** [↓](#)
2. **LGNZ R&P Sector Meeting Slides** [↓](#)
3. **Recommendation from Joint Committee** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the Mayor’s Report – March 2026 be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council does/does not [delete one] agree that:

That the Shareholder Agreement Terms of Reference for the Central Districts Water Shareholders Committee are amended:

- a. Clause 2 – add (t) Engaging with the Company on behalf of the Shareholders’ Committee in relation to how the Company shall engage with mana whenua to give effect to te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles and establish and implements its Te Ao Māori framework
- b. Clause 6 – adjust 6(a) Quorum to remain at 5 members, but now require a member from each of the shareholder councils and Ngā Tapuwāe o Hau.

Speech: Hon Erica Stanford, Unveiling of Lake Alice**Memorial, Saturday 21 February 2026**

[note: may be slight variations on delivery]

- Tēnā koutou katoa
- [in delivery Minister referred to reasons why she was using a written speech – importance of ensuring that specific acknowledgements and recognition were made at the site of Lake Alice itself]
- I want to acknowledge the Lake Alice survivors here today, the survivors who couldn't attend, and those who are no longer with us. This memorial is a testament to you, your families and your whānau. In particular, I would like to thank Robyn Dandy and Karilyn Wildebore for all you have done to make today possible.
- I also want to acknowledge mana whenua for the karakia, the Mayor of Rangitikei Andy Watson for the welcome, and Suze Redmayne, MP for Rangitikei.

- The memorial plaque is an acknowledgement of the horrific abuse and cruel treatment of hundreds of children and young people at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit.
- Over the last 18 months I have been deeply impacted by the experiences that have been shared with me by Lake Alice survivors.
- When the Royal Commission’s final report was tabled in Parliament in July 2024, we formally acknowledged for the first time that children and young people were tortured at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent Unit.
- I recall looking up into the public gallery in Parliament and watching peoples’ faces as the Government finally acknowledged what, for decades, it had denied. The disbelief, the tears, the relief and yes, for some, the skepticism.
- That night I had the privilege of meeting with some of the survivors of Lake Alice. I will never forget that night. As the survivors talked about what had happened to them there I

was confronted with absolute horror that what I had read in the Royal Commission’s case study and report were sanitised versions.

- That, at the same ages as my children, they had been sent into what can only be described as a facility of unbridled evil. For being a bit different. For being traumatised. For being difficult. There the most horrific events imaginable happened in the “care” and “protection” of the State. Where Selwyn Leeks, his staff, and others used the cloak of authority and legitimacy to abuse and torture and abuse children. They also turned a blind eye to children being abused by others too and, in some instances, encouraged it.
- We talked about how public servants and others had so many opportunities to stop children being abused and tortured and how the first complaint was laid only six months after the unit opened.
- Even once the Unit was finally closed public servants spent more years and the State’s infinite resources

fighting, obfuscating, and weaponising the bureaucratic and legal systems to deflect, dispute, and deny the full extent of what happened over decades. Some survivors told me that, for them, that was almost worse than what happened to them at Lake Alice.

- The roll call of shame is long. Doctors. Nurses. Teachers. Social workers. Police officers. The health and education departments. Medical professional bodies. Regulatory agencies. The Ombudsman. ACC. The Children's Commissioner. The Health and Disability Commissioner. Crown Law. Disbelieving, disinterested, dodging responsibility, failing to follow up, not taking complaints seriously, not sharing or blocking requests for information, or assuming that if there was something to be found someone else would have found it already.
- There were three failed police investigations. Three opportunities to bring the perpetrators to justice lost because of incompetence, bias, lost evidence, failing to interview complainants, casting victims as unreliable and

troublesome, lack of resourcing and no priority. By the time a fourth was finally completed the perpetrators were either too dead or too close to it to stand trial. The opportunity for any real measure of justice to be served and perpetrators held to public account was lost and for that I am deeply sorry.

- Risk. Liability. Reputation protection and preservation. For decades these were all were more important than finding and telling the truth. All mattered more than holding rapists, torturers, and abusers of children to account.
- These decisions were made by people. Not systems. In the trail of carelessness, callousness, and contemptuous behaviour there were a few brave public servants who tried to elevate the truth. They were inevitably discouraged, quashed, dismissed, or obstructed by others higher up.
- Ultimately it took two cases at the UN and a Royal Commission for New Zealand to admit the truth that children at the Lake Alice Child and Adolescent were

tortured. To apologise for it. To provide redress. Decades too late for many survivors who died waiting. For that I am deeply sorry.

- Torture at the Lake Alice Unit didn't occur for years to hundreds of children because there wasn't sufficient systems or oversight mechanisms or legislation or complaints or knowledge. It continued and was then covered up, because many people wielded the power of the State against vulnerable people in the worst ways possible because they valued almost anything and everything more than the truth.
- I know that agreeing to meet with me and share some of their experiences, not just at the Lake Alice Unit, but the impact it had on their entire lives, took great courage.
- I remain so deeply grateful that they were willing meet with me that night and for their ongoing generosity and honesty in the conversations that followed. I know I will never understand how much it cost survivors to relive those events when they had no reason to trust me or my team

after they had been betrayed so many times and for so long.

- There is nothing that we can ever say, or do, that can change what the State allowed to happen and then colluded to cover up. But I hope that this memorial plaque is seen as another form of public recognition of what you have endured, and that all of the children of Lake Alice will never be forgotten.
- To families and whānau, I am sorry your loved ones endured so much abuse, harm and suffering, for so long, before the Government and other organisations formally acknowledged and apologised to you.
- I also want acknowledge the many others who fought for decades to shine the light on the truth of what happened at Lake Alice. The advocates, journalists, Royal Commission staff and the Commissioners for the roles they have played in fighting for the truth to be known and paving the way for all of us to be here today to unveil this memorial plaque.

- I hope this memorial plaque will be seen as a testimony to the determination, bravery and resilience of the Lake Alice survivors, their family and whānau and an acknowledgement of the truth of what took place at the Lake Alice Unit. Thank you for the privilege of being included in its unveiling today.



Rates capping

LGNZ

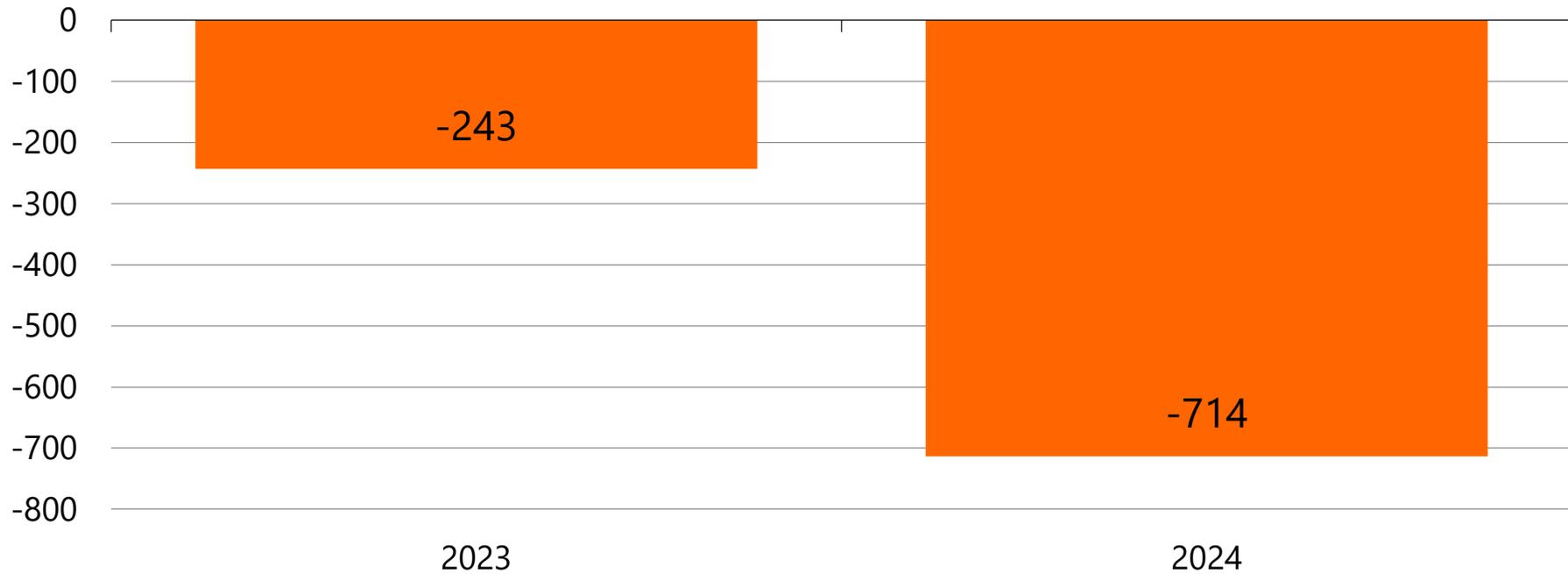
Nick Brunsdon (Principal Economist, Lead Demographer, & Director)

26 February 2026

Rates Cap

Cumulative difference of \$957m

\$m, difference in total national rates collected, actual compared to rates cap

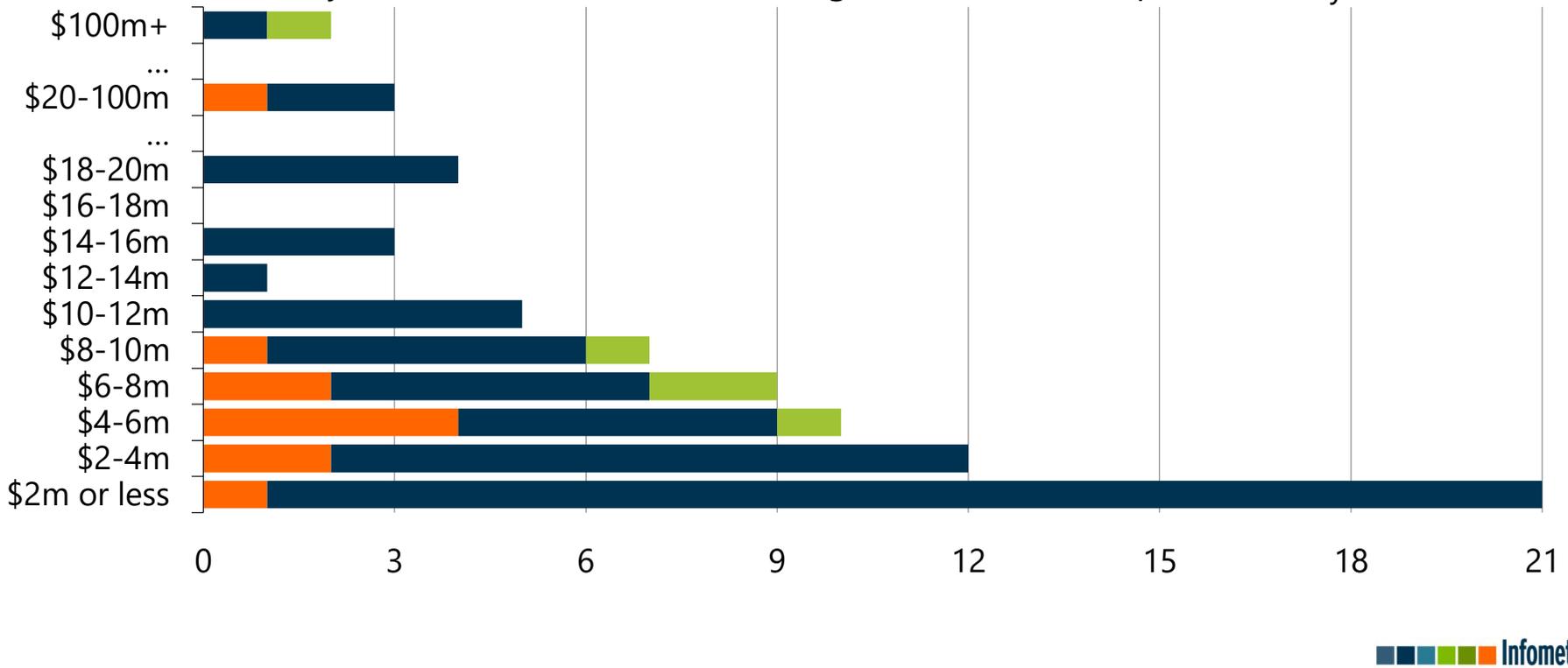


Rates Cap

Most councils see a \$0-20m impact

Count of councils, by estimated rates revenue change under a rates cap

- Regional Councils
- Local Councils
- Unitary Councils



Rates Cap

Proposed formula

The proposed formula is expressed in Figure 1, based on a per capita, price basis for a fixed basket of council services:

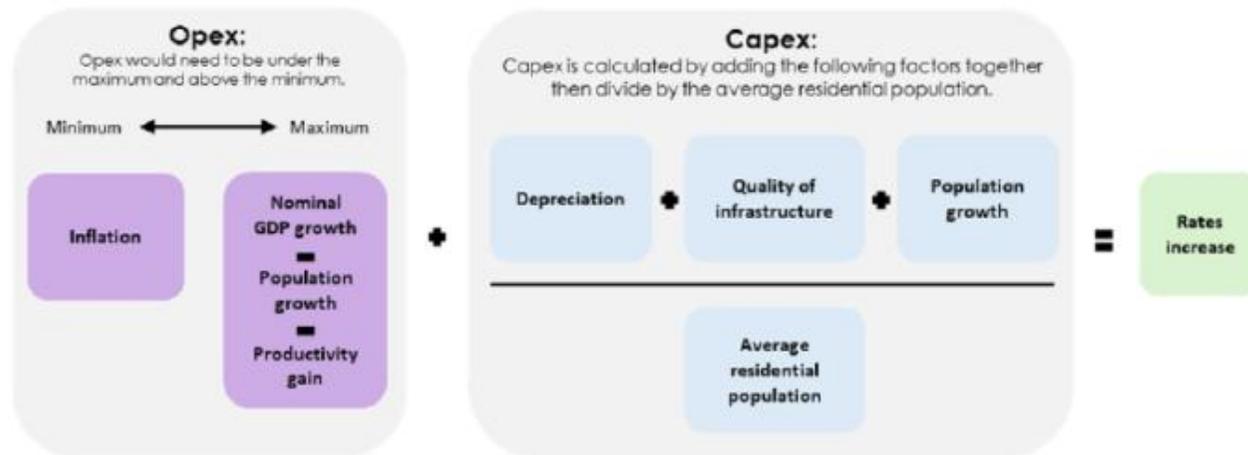


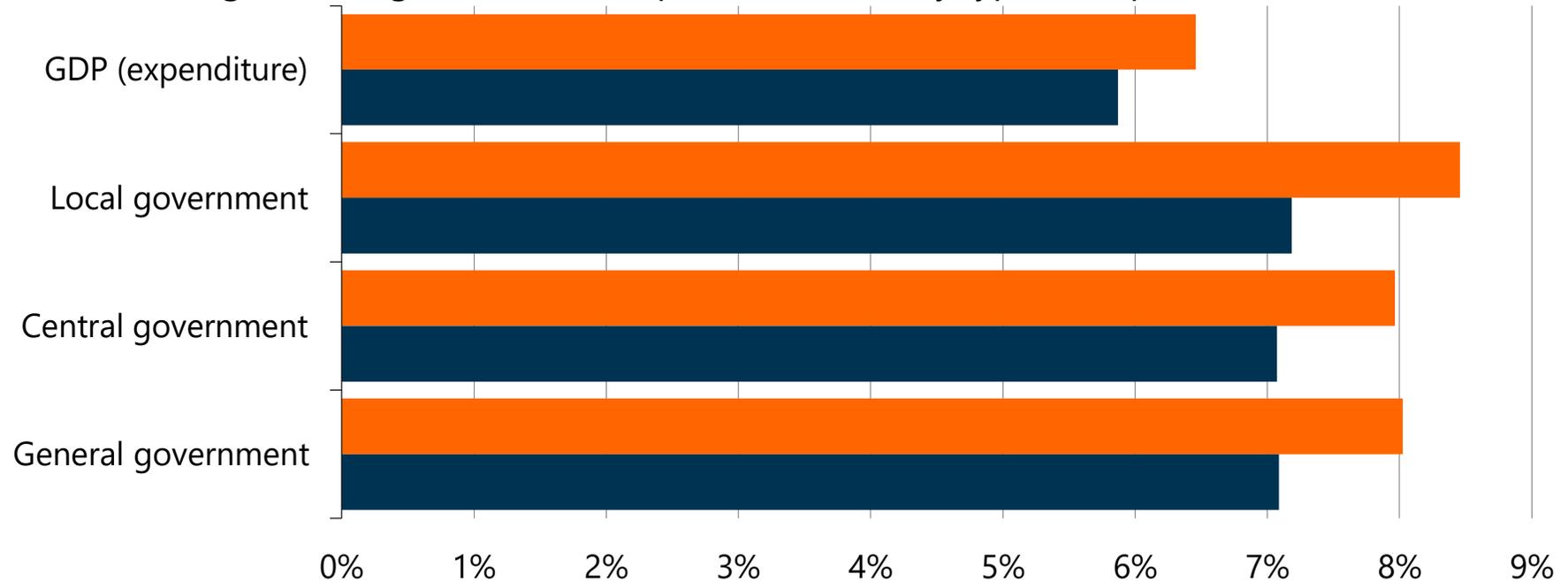
Figure 1: Proposed rates target formula

Rates Cap

Stronger nominal growth for local and central govt

Annual average % change in nominal expenditure GDP, by type & av period

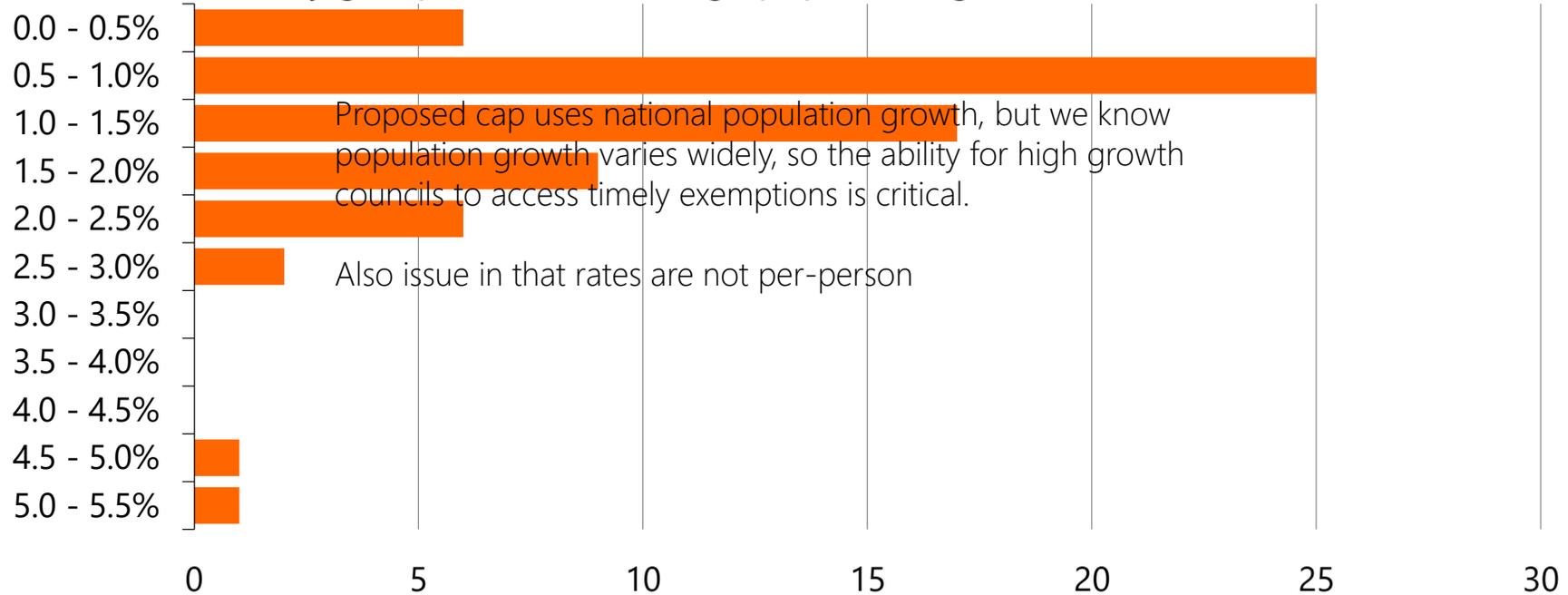
5-year average
10-year average



Rates Cap

Around 28% of local areas experience stronger growth

Count of TLA areas, by group of annual average population growth



Proposed cap uses national population growth, but we know population growth varies widely, so the ability for high growth councils to access timely exemptions is critical.

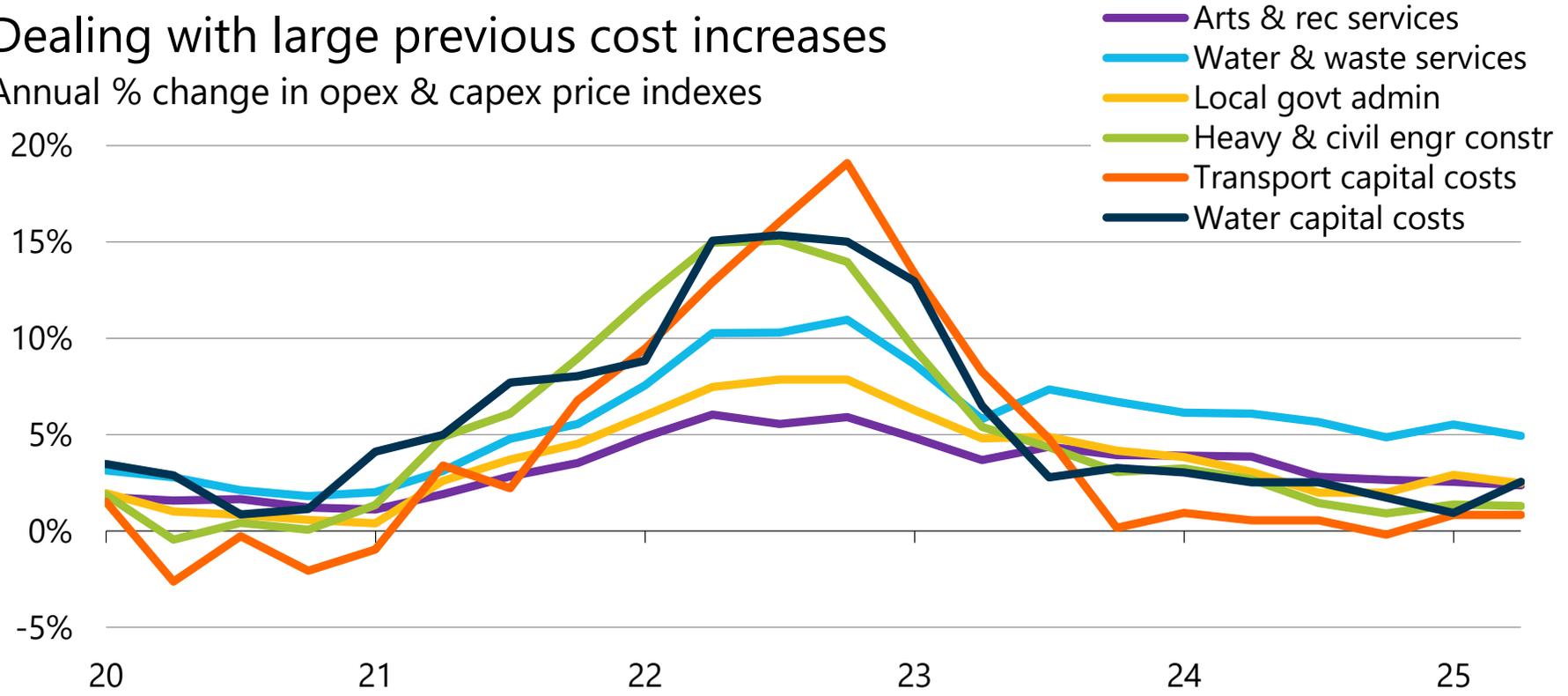
Also issue in that rates are not per-person



Local government cost pressures

Dealing with large previous cost increases

Annual % change in opex & capex price indexes

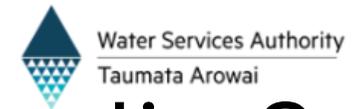




Questions?

Nick Brunsdon (Principal Economist, Lead Demographer, & Director)

Nick.Brunsdon@infometrics.co.nz



Who is **NOT** a drinking water supplier?



Domestic self-supply - serves a single domestic dwelling or household unit.



Shared domestic supply - pipes water to any number of domestic dwellings and the total population served does not exceed 25 people.

Do NOT need to;

- register with the Authority, or
- follow the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules and prepare a drinking water safety plan or
- follow an Acceptable Solution.

Who is a drinking water supplier?



Supplies for more than 25 people, from very small community supplies to large centralised supplies



Public supply of any size e.g. café, marae, school that supply their own water for use by the public.

Must:

- register with the Authority, and comply with the Drinking Water Quality Assurance Rules including preparing a drinking water safety plan (for over 25) or
- register with the Authority and comply with an an Acceptable Solution.



Who must register/comply when?

Supplies not previously registered **must:**

Register by November 2028 and

Comply with the Regulations by November 2030

Supplies need to be fully compliant by the date they submit a Drinking Water Safety Plan (if that is before November 2030)

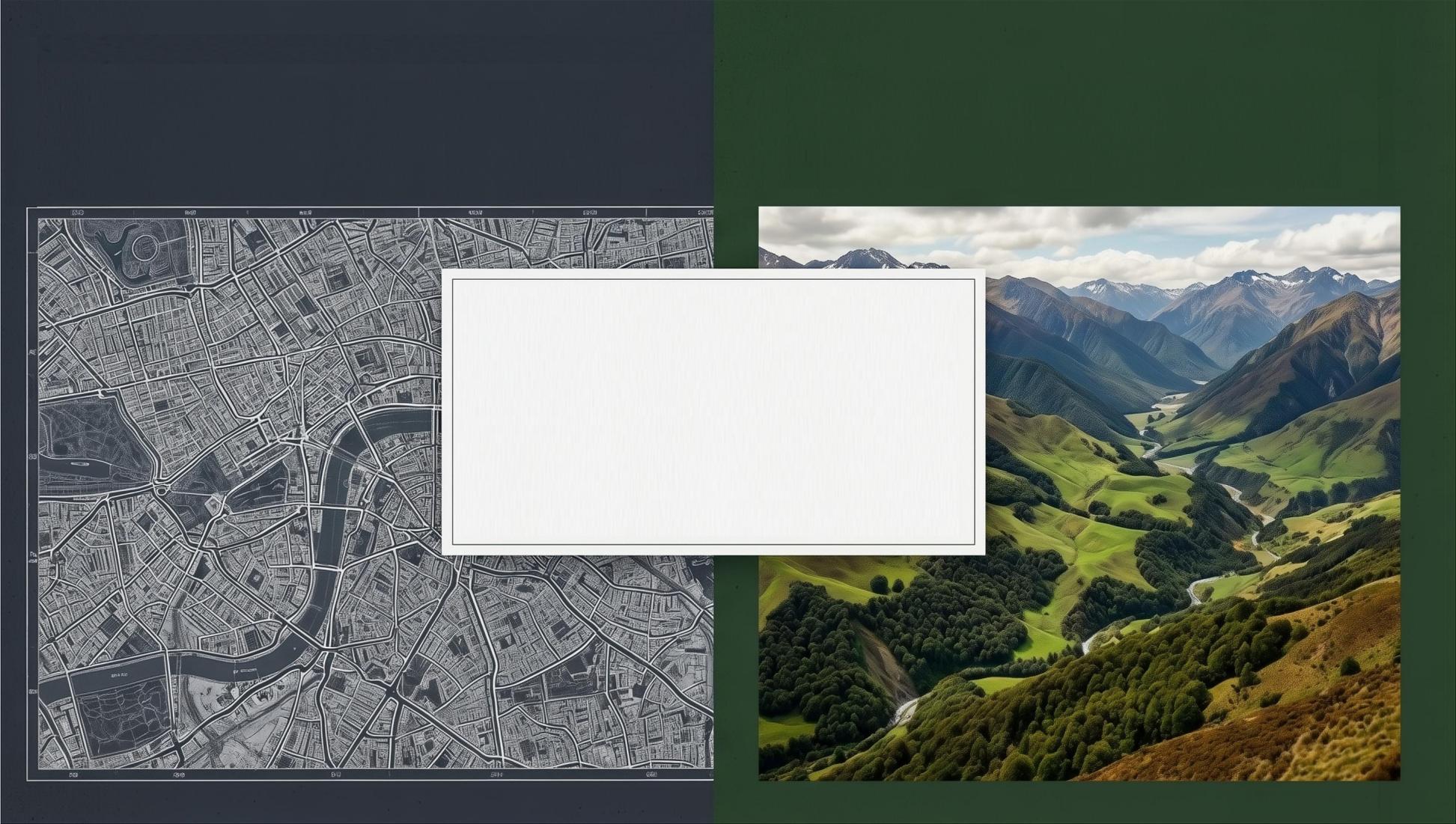


What you can do to help?

- Let people know of registration and compliance requirements.
- Let them know we have changed the Acceptable Solutions and Rules for small supplies that many will use so they are easier to understand and more affordable to implement.
- Guide people to our new more user-friendly website www.taumataarowai.govt.nz.

ITEM 8.1

ATTACHMENT 2

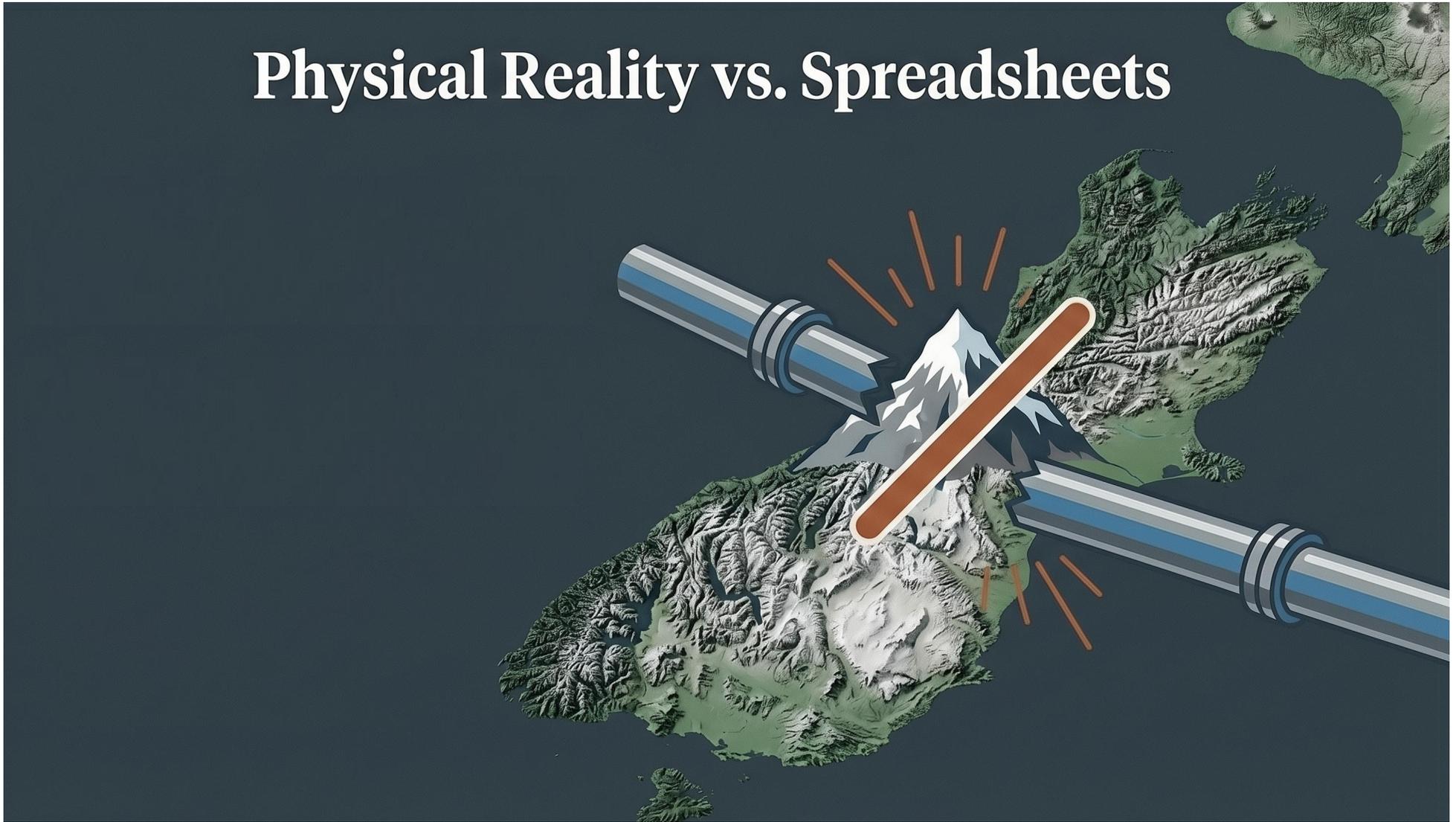


Theory

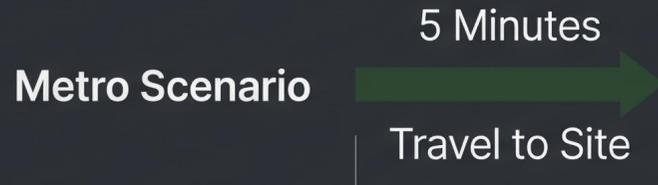


Physical Reality vs. Spreadsheets

ITEM 8.1
ATTACHMENT 2

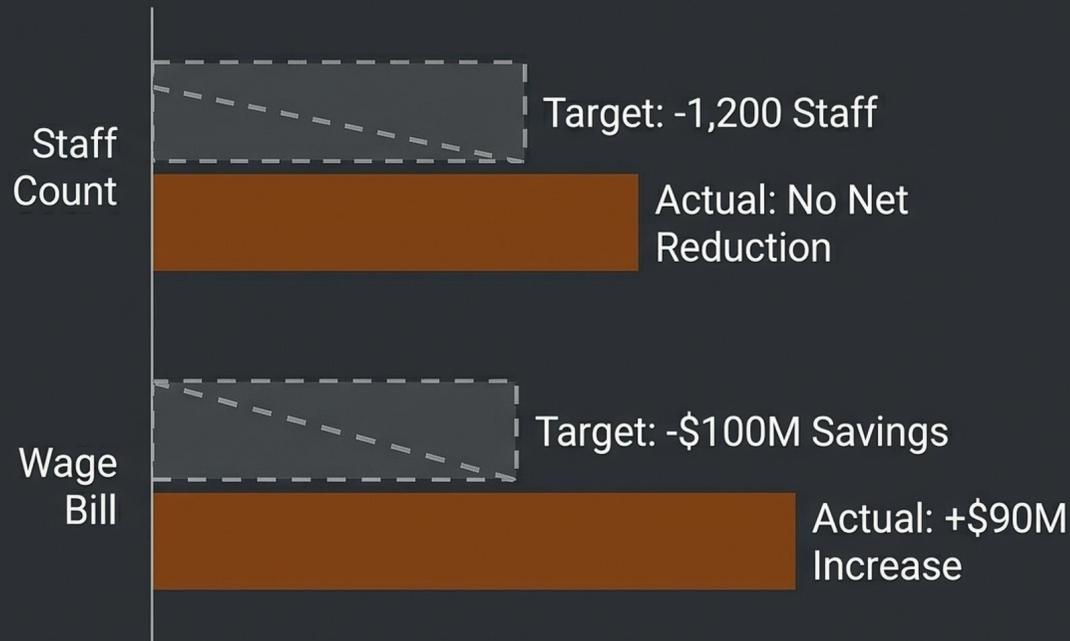


The Geographic Penalty



"As networks expand into low-density areas, cost per connection rises." — Castalia Analysis

The Bureaucracy of Scale: Auckland Case Study.



+53%

Increase in staff earning >\$100k (The 'Management Bubble').

The Verdict: Size Does Not Dictate Efficiency



Source: NZ Infrastructure Commission (Te Waihangā) - 'Does Size Matter?' Report

Peak Efficiency is Local.

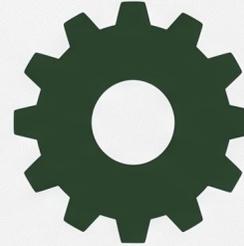
Whangārei District Council



OPEX per capita:
Comparable to Mega-Entity.

Key Attribute:
Agile Decision Making.

Watercare (Auckland)

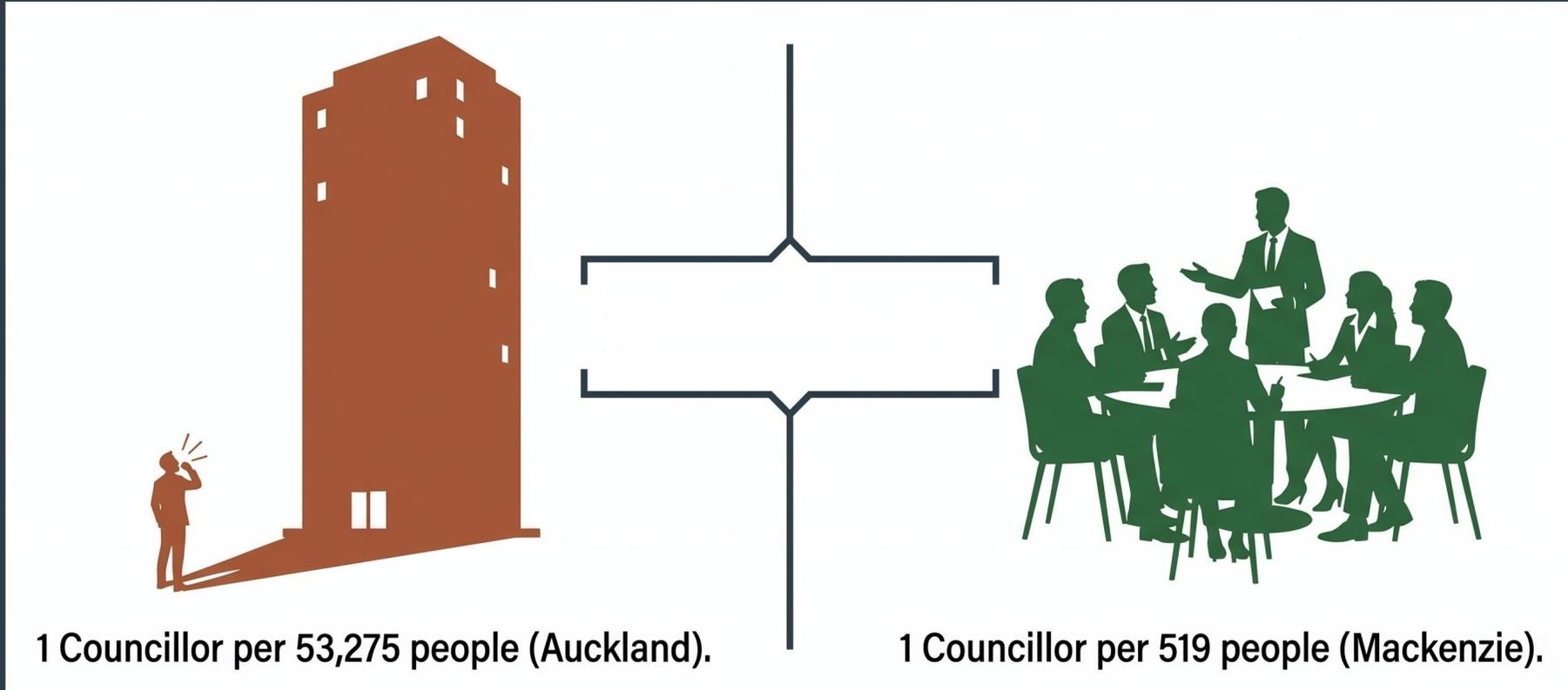


OPEX per capita:
Comparable to Local.

Key Attribute: High
Administrative Overhead.

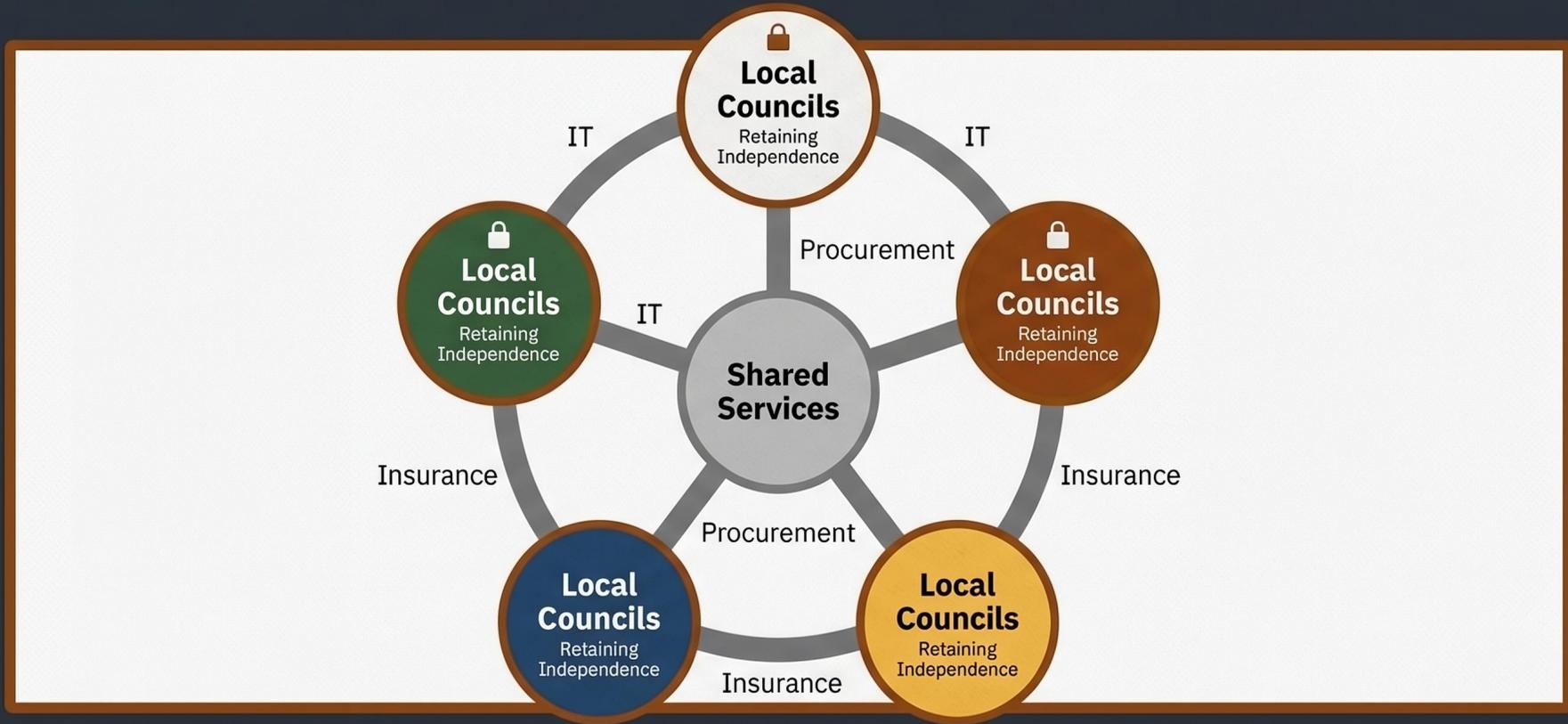
The Cost of Losing Local Voice.

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2



Less scrutiny leads to unchecked administrative bloat.

The Middle Way: Cooperation, Not Amalgamation.



A Resilient Future for Local Government



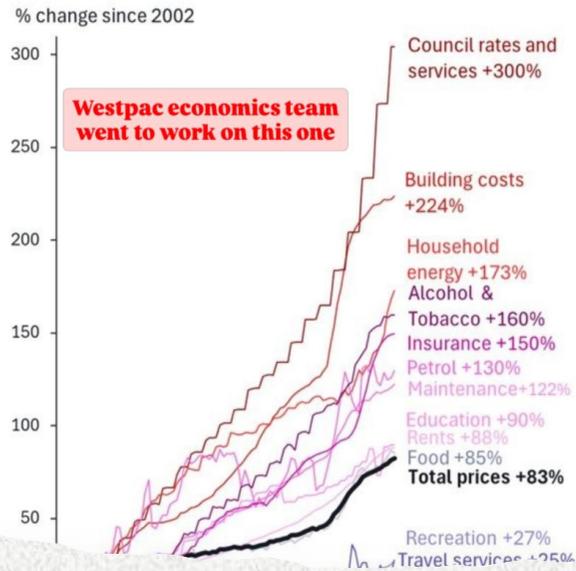
ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2

The politics of scale

Lifting the productivity of infrastructure delivery

Ross Copland | FEngNZ, BE Civil (Hons), BCom, MBA

some essentials prices are up much more.



Premium Home / New Zealand

The \$3 billion Dunedin Hospital saga: Broken promises, blown budgets and southern outrage

Ben Tomsett
Multimedia Journalist - Dunedin, NZ Herald - NZ Herald - 24 Nov, 2024 05:00 AM 7 mins to read

45 Comments Gift article Save Share



Sunday, 16 March 2025

\$250m roundabout 'on track'

By Guy Williams

Facebook 59 Twitter 0

Regions > Queenstown



Work continues on Frankton's BP roundabout. PHOTO: GUY WILLIAMS

The \$250 million upgrade of Queenstown's BP roundabout and connecting roads remains on time and budget, the NZ Transport Agency says.

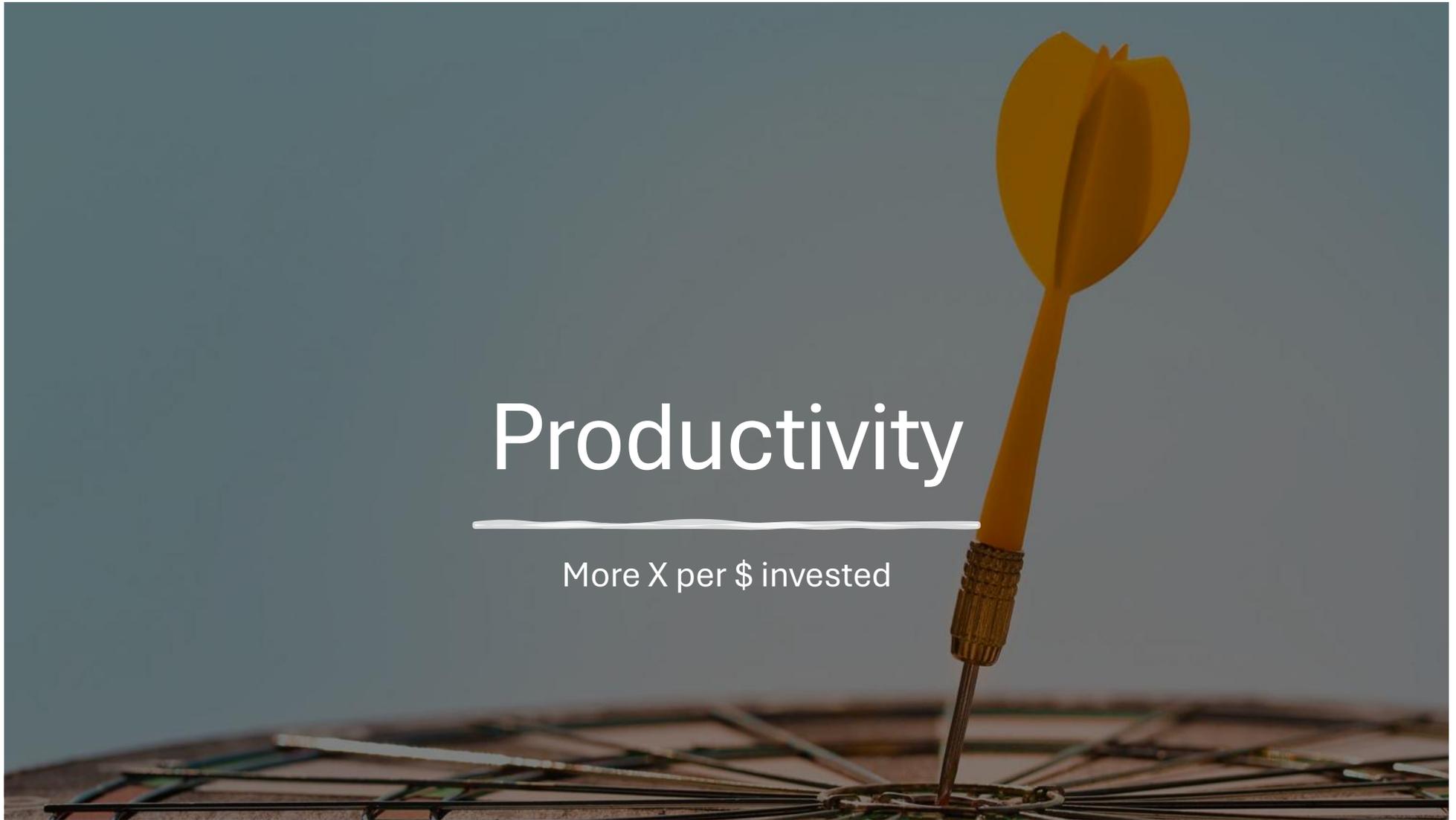
We have a problem

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2

Amalgamation is not partisan....

- Labour
 - Health NZ (17 to 1)
 - Te Pukenga (16 to 1)
 - Water (67 to 4+)
 - NBEA (>100 plans to 14-17)
- National
 - Local Govt CTB's
 - Super Ministries
 - Ministry of Joyce
 - Ministry of Bishop

....but its popular for different reasons





Big asset owners are not performing



Health

DHB's hadn't updated AMP's since 2009
Dunedin Hospital escalation



Education

Maintenance and renewals
Investment decision making



NZTA

Alliance projects averaged 112% overrun above the P95 DBC estimate.
11 out of 16 NZTA projects exceeded their P95 DBC cost estimate (after adjusting for escalation/inflation).

NZTA vs peers in Australia (why we underperform)

Structural

Construction labour cost (and price) is much higher in Australia. This will impact NZ's market's capacity and capability constraints.

Cultural

The consenting environment in New Zealand for road projects is more challenging.

Political

NZTA has much less certainty in its project pipeline than its Australian peers.

Foundational issues impacting NZTA's ability to deliver efficiently



1) inadequacies in accountability



2) lack of in-house capacity and / or capability



3) shortfalls in risk management and contingency



4) limited independent assurance

Steps to improve NZTA efficiency



increasing the certainty of the capital project pipeline;



improving project definition in the Detailed Business Case (DBC);



optimising the delivery model for projects;



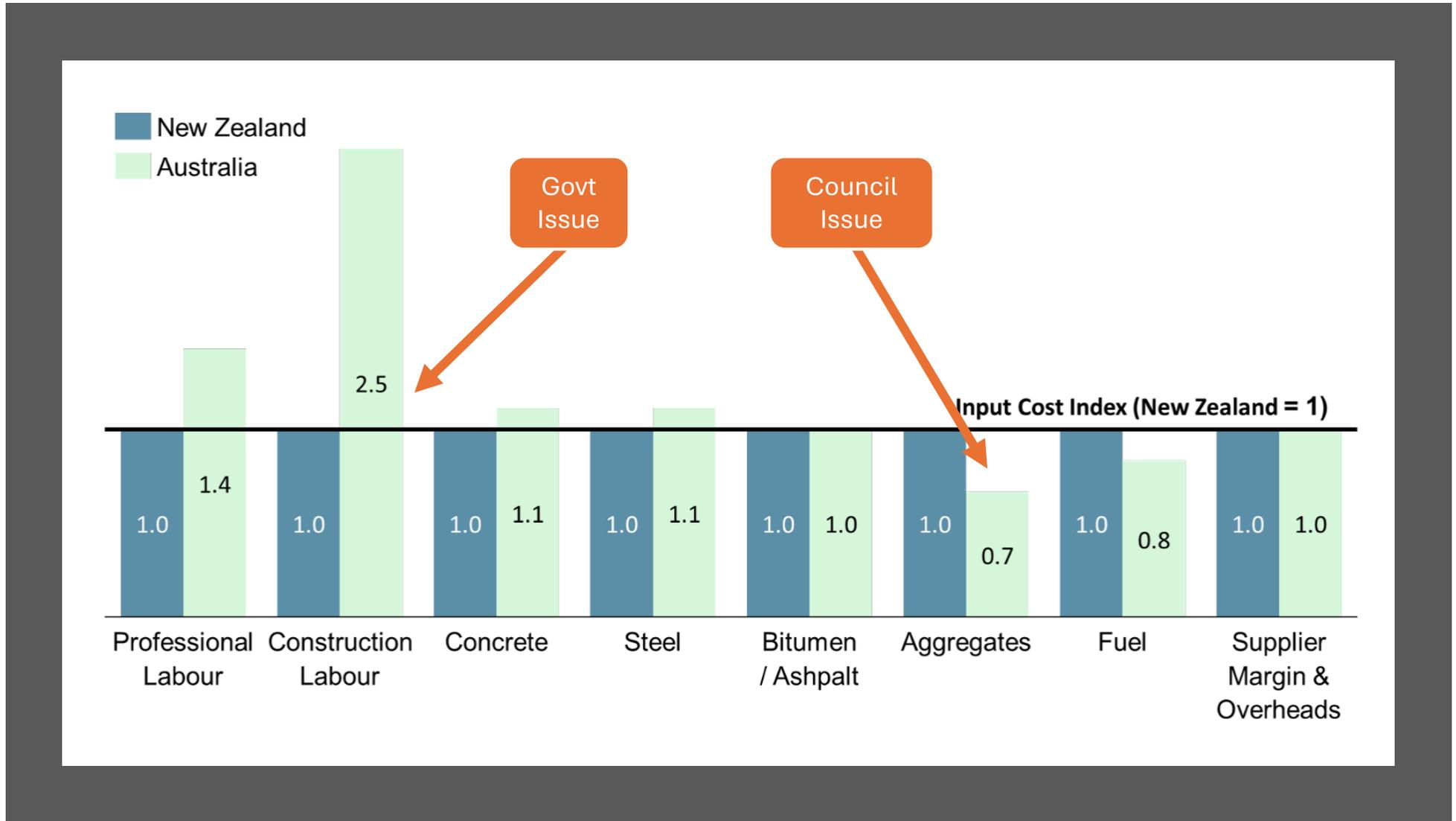
shaping and growing the market;



including escalation in cost estimates; and



minimising post-business case budget adjustments.



The Swiss annoy ‘amalgamators’

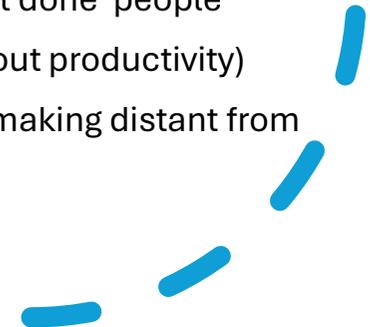
Aspect	Switzerland	New Zealand	Why it matters for efficiency
Scale & structure	2,100+ tiny municipalities handle local delivery; cantons coordinate regional; federal for national (e.g. main rail/roads). Strong voluntary/inter-cantonal cooperation.	78 councils (many small/rural); regions + territories often duplicate. Proposed CTBs of mayors.	Switzerland proves subsidiarity (decisions at lowest level) + cooperation works without amalgamation.
Institutions & stability	Excellent governance, low corruption, credible long-term pipelines, very low investment volatility (0.3% std dev). Robust decision-making.	Higher volatility, weaker OECD rankings on long-term vision, procurement, value-for-money.	Stable planning avoids boom-bust and optimism bias that drive NZ overruns.
Accountability	Direct democracy (referendums on big projects) + fiscal equivalence (beneficiaries pay via local taxes/user charges).	Weaker local voter pressure on regional issues; central funding distorts priorities.	Forces realistic scoping and prioritisation — less waste.
Delivery approach	"Organisation before electronics or concrete" (Swiss rail principle): optimise existing assets first via timetables, pricing, signalling, demand management. World-class expertise in complex geology (Gotthard Base Tunnel delivered without major overruns relative to peers).	Often "build first" culture; consenting/delays add \$1.3b/year; premiums on motorways/tunnels/underground rail.	Defers or avoids expensive new builds. Switzerland repeats tunnel projects and learns locally → lower risk.
Maintenance & optimisation	Strong renewals focus + user-pays (e.g. heavy rail usage, highway vignette).	Chronic under-maintenance; new/shiny preferred.	Gets more life out of assets → lower long-term cost per user.

Benefits of scale



Problems with scale

- **Rounding up** – on HSE, leave allowances, self-imposed design criteria
- **Rounding down** – prices (Watercare 7 into 1)
- **Complex procurement** models (alliancing, PPP's)
- Tendency to **over specify**, overcomplicate, misinterpret 'resilience'
- Prone to **scope creep** and community expectation via consents
- **Reluctance to use powers** even when granted (e.g. PWA, designations)
- No RONS in the South Island...**votes win funding**, regions miss out
- Tendency to aggregate, package and bundle, **interface risk** dominates
- Loss of **hyper-local knowledge** and the 'get shit done' people
- **Overhead** scales with revenue (ie we engineer out productivity)
- Delegations and **autonomy reduce** – decision making distant from the workforce



Takeouts for rural & provincial councils

- **No evidence that bigger is more (or less) efficient** — Infracom research shows council size is neutral for roads, consents, overheads once you control for density and usage.
- **Build real coordination without losing autonomy** — Use regional bodies or mandatory shared-services agreements for cross-boundary stuff (catchments, roading corridors) while keeping local delivery and accountability.
- **Non-built solutions first** — can we fix this with better organisation/pricing/tech before concrete? (time-of-use road charging, metering, demand management etc)
- **Strengthen institutions & pipelines** — transparency on costs, independent assurance on business cases, multi-year funding certainty, and credible 10–30 year plans. Reduce consenting friction by creating empowering plans, adopting standards and pushing back against the ‘objection industry’.
- **Fiscal equivalence & direct accountability** — More user-pays and local referendums/veto rights on major spends so rural voices aren't drowned out by urban mayors on CTBs.
- **Build delivery expertise** — Hire the best people. **Give them autonomy.** Invest in repeated learning on complex projects (tunnelling, seismic design) and benchmark relentlessly against top performers.

NZ’s infrastructure productivity problem is mostly **governance, culture, incentives, and processes** — not size or geography. Switzerland shows you can have tiny local government, tough terrain, and still deliver top-tier value for money. NZ’s largest asset owners deliver appalling results – seldom because of scale. Politics, lac

Parting thought...



*The further infrastructure decision-making is from politicians,
the better it performs.*



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs



NATIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE
FUNDING AND FINANCING

Wastewater Investment Accelerator

Presentation to Rural and Provincial Councils

Marlon Bridge (DIA/ NIFF) & Andrew McGavin (NIFF)

February 2026

The challenge



Water Services Delivery Plans forecast approximately \$50 billion in water infrastructure over the next 10 years

- **344** publicly owned wastewater treatment plants across NZ - built 30-40 years ago and will require an upgrade due to age.
- Many small wastewater plants operating on expired consents with significant environmental and public health risks.
- Currently, **73** wastewater plants serving populations fewer than 2,000 people operating on expired consents, and a further **51** with consents expiring before 2030 – **124 in total**.
- In the 5 years that follow, a further **94** small scale plants with consents expiring. There will also be additional growth demand on top of this for new plants.
- This does not include 'water equity' issues – communities that need a scheme but can't afford it (approx. 500k people without a council operated scheme)
- Current settings for designing, consenting, building, and operating these plants is case-by-case, time intensive, costly, and subject to uncertainties.



The opportunity



Legislative and regulatory settings now enable innovative ways of achieving cost efficiencies and improved environmental outcomes

- LG(WS) Act introduced a **single standard** for wastewater discharge to different environments
- Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards pave the way for **standardised infrastructure** design solutions such as ‘packaged plants’.
- IFF Act amendments **allow off-balance sheet financing solutions** for water providers (CCOs and Councils) for the purchase and build of water infrastructure assets
- Innovative structuring options developed by NIFF, particularly a **multi-project IFF vehicle**, enable the benefits of scaled procurement to be pursued.



What are packaged plants?



Pre-engineered, factory-built, and containerised systems designed for rapid deployment, high scalability, and minimal on-site civil works

- Small-scale modular wastewater treatment plants available as **pre-manufactured treatment facilities** that can treat waste in small communities.
- Delivered in containers for installation and **can be scaled** for various flows / population sizes up to 2,000 people (4 package plants in series before shifting technology).
- **Widely used internationally**, often in rural areas because of ease of installation, minimal operational oversight, scalability, and economic feasibility.
- Package plants typically average \$1-\$5 million per 500 people served, with full build out costs as high as \$5m-\$20 million.



What we are proposing



For the benefit of Water Service Organisations across the country, DIA and NIFF are working together to nationally procure, deliver, and finance small wastewater treatment plants at scale

- To **reduce cost, time, and uncertainty** to renew and upgrade small scale wastewater plants under the new national wastewater standards.
- Water providers (CCOs and Councils) **opt-in** to a national programme **led by NIFF** that will **specify, procure, and finance** small-scale, packaged wastewater plants on behalf of water providers.
- We envisage taking a time-based approach to delivering *tranches*, and to schedule roll out in a way that meets participants needs within each tranche – **'pick-a-slot' procurement**.
- We are targeting having the first tranche finalised this year.
- We are still considering options around the scope of services and the structure, and we **would value your input**. Key working groups will be created to ensure appropriate representation.



Participation options being considered



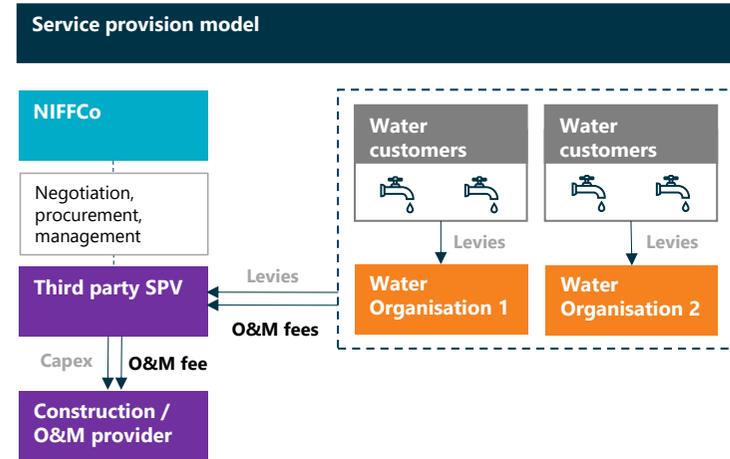
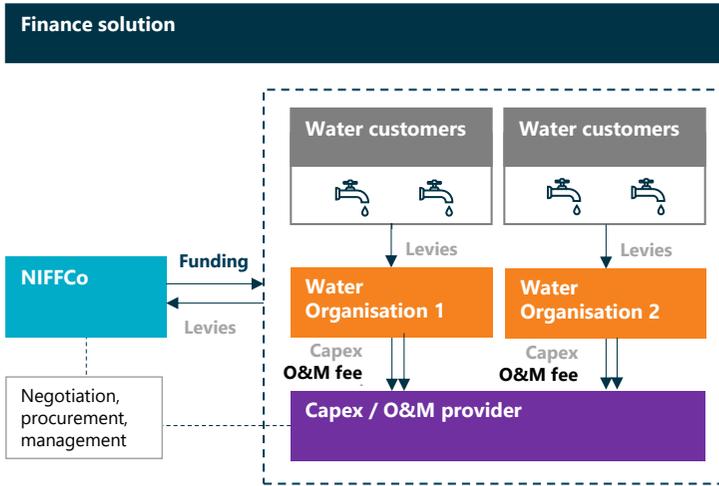
NIFF is seeking feedback from water organisations on the spectrum of options being considered for rollout

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 2

	Bulk purchase	Finance solution	Service provision model
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Organisation purchases treatment plant from NIFFCo Water Organisation contracts directly with third party for purchase, install (and maintenance if required) Plant funded from water charges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Organisation purchases treatment plant from NIFFCo Water Organisation contracts directly with third party for purchase, install (and maintenance if required) NIFFCo establishes a beneficiary pays multi-year IFF levy to provide grant funding to Water Organisation to fund the treatment plant IFF levy (collected by water organization, added to water bill) is passed to NIFF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Third party SPV contracts with multiple Water organisations under standardised contract Third party provider responsible for purchase, install (and maintenance if required) of treatment plant NIFFCo negotiate and manage standardised contract with third party Plant funded through IFF levy (added to water bill) and paid to third party SPV
Access to procurement savings	✓	✓	✓
Funding solution provided	✗	✓	✓
Debt sits outside Water Organisation balance sheet	✗	✓	✓
Install and commissioning risk passed to external party	✗	✗	✓



Participation options



Next steps



We'd like to hear from you

- You can register your interest, request a visit or contact us at waters@niff.govt.nz
- Any questions?
- We'll be staying after the presentation, please come and speak to us
- We'd like to talk further about your specific council interests and needs and how this could help

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE

TO: Council

MEETING DATE: 25 March 2026

TITLE: Presentation of the Part I Public Joint Shareholders Committee - Central Districts Water Recommendations from its 13 February 2026 Meeting

Set out below are the recommendations only from the Joint Shareholders Committee - Central Districts Water meeting Part I Public held on 13 February 2026. The Council may resolve to adopt, amend, receive, note or not adopt any such recommendations. (SO 2.18.1)

3-26 Initial Shareholders' Committee Policies

Memorandum, presented by Chris Dyhrberg - Executive Director
Julie Keane - Executive Support.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

2. That the Committee recommend to the respective shareholder councils that the Shareholder Agreement Terms of Reference for the Committee are amended:
 - a. Clause 2 – add (t) Engaging with the Company on behalf of the Shareholders’ Committee in relation to how the Company shall engage with mana whenua to give effect to te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles and establish and implements its Te Ao Māori framework
 - b. Clause 6 – adjust 6(a) Quorum to remain at 5 members, but now require a member from each of the shareholder councils and Ngā Tapuwāe o Hau

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - March 2026

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 Parks and Reserves

- 2.1 The following events took place at Council Parks and Reserves across the Rangitikei District during February 2026:

- 7th – 8th February 2026 – Taihape Show Jumping Event – Horse event — All fields, Memorial Park Taihape
- 12th February 2026 – T.A.S. Taihape Area School – Track and Long Jump Pit – Fields 1 & 2, Memorial Park, Taihape
- 22nd February 2026 – Music Festival and Events – Summer music festival – Village Green, Marton
- 27th February 2026 – T.A.S. Taihape Area School – Whole School Athletics Championship event – All fields, Memorial Park, Taihape
- 28th February 2026 – Redline Kustomz Car Crew – Car club Hard Park – Field 1 & 2, Marton Park
- 28th February 2026 – Fest a bull – Te Matapihi Green Space, Bulls
- 28th February – 1st March 2026 – NZCF Drone Course- Practical – Field behind the playground, Wilson Park

3. Staff Movements

- 3.1 There were no new staff in February 2026.
- 3.2 In February we farewelled the following employees from Rangitikei District Council:
- Hina Cheema (Corporate Planner, Fixed Term)
 - Lisa Cruywagen (Casual Community Engagement Officer)

4. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard

- 4.1 The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard for February 2026 is attached (Attachments 1).

5. Submissions

ITEM 9.1

- 5.1 The updated list of current opportunities to submit on consultations run by external agencies is attached (Attachment 2).
- 5.2 Consultations submitted on:
 - 5.2.1 Council submitted on the Rates Target Model for New Zealand (3 February 2026), the Natural Environment Bill (13 February 2026), the Planning Bill (13 February 2026), and the Simplifying Local Government Proposal (20 February 2026).
 - 5.2.2 Council completed two joint submissions with Horizons Regional Council, Horowhenua District Council, Manawatū District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Ruapehu District Council, Tararua District Council and Whanganui District Council, one on the Natural Environment Bill and the Planning Bill and the other on the Simplifying Local Government Review.
- 5.3 Consultations for submission:
 - 5.3.1 An operational submission is planned on the Health and Safety at Work Amendment Bill. Under consideration are the Targeted speed limit reviews in the Manawatū-Horizons region (which includes the SH1/Kakariki Rad intersection) and the Reserve Bank's consultation on Access to cash.
 - 5.3.2 Council will also feed into the development of regional submissions where appropriate.
- 5.4 The submissions will be made available on Council's [website](#).

6. Central Districts Water Update

- 6.1 This regular update provides progress on work on Central Districts Water (CDW).
- 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 Recruiting for Central Districts Water (CDW) Board and Chair roles commenced December. Interviewing of shortlisted candidates (February).
 - 6.3.2 Establishment planning by the CDW establishment team workplans (per workstream) drafted (for Board endorsement, in due course). Customer and digital strategy in preparation. Monthly workshops to consolidate and integrate workstream progress. Board inductions are being planned to take place March / April.
 - 6.3.3 Councils resolved establishment and nominations to the Shareholders Committee in their February meetings. For Rangitikei District Council the Mayor and Deputy Mayor were appointed with Cr Fi Dalgety as a nominated alternative. Additionally, three Iwi representatives were appointed across the region.
 - 6.3.4 Mr Chris Gallavin was announced as the Independent Chair for the Shareholders Committee. The first Shareholder Committee meeting was held on Friday, 13 February. The next meeting is on 13 March.

6.3.5 The Commerce Commission released their determination (based on submissions received) on the Information Disclosures required of Water Organisations in February.

6.3.6 The CDW website is now live: www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz

6.4 Key tasks and dates:

6.4.1 CDW Board appointments to be confirmed by Shareholder Committee on 13 March.

6.4.2 WS-CCO Establishment CEO – to be appointed by mid 2026.

6.4.3 Financing arrangements – agreed to by mid 2026.

6.4.4 A reminder that the planned transfer date is 1 July 2027.

7. Request to Waive Building Consent Fees for Ratana Te Manuao Project

7.1 A request was received from Talia Anderson-Town on behalf of the Ratana Orakeinui Trust Incorporated seeking a waiver of building consent fees associated with the redevelopment of Te Manuao at Rātana.

7.2 The Trust lodged a building consent for the project as a whole which was then amended to a staged consent to enable work to commence on the project while the consent for the second stage was being progressed. The Trust is concerned that this process could have led to increased costs and also notes the importance of Rātana within the District. Officers note that all the information that was supplied for the original consent was used for the staged consent(s). Stage 1 consent has been issued, and work is ongoing for the stage 2 consent.

7.3 The charges that have so far accrued for this project total \$16,058.62 including GST. This amount can be broken down into internal and external charges:

7.3.1 External costs which cannot be waived, amount to \$3,366.25 (including GST). These represent direct charges from third-party providers; National Processing Limited, Objective Build, National Consultants Ltd and LINZ.

7.3.2 Internal costs that could be considered to be waived total the amount of \$12,692.37 (including GST). A breakdown of these charges are:

RDC Administration	\$70.00
RDC Planner	\$271.17
RDC Building Officer	\$12,115.63
RDC Infrastructure Technical	\$235.58

7.4 As the requestor outlines the Trust has received around \$10M from a national infrastructure fund for this project.

7.5 Council is asked to consider this request and determine how much, if any, of the internal charges will be waived. Refer to Recommendation 2 below.

8. Annual Dog Control Report 2024/25

8.1 Under Section 10A(3) of the Dog Control Act 1996, Council is required to give public notice of its annual report on dog control policy and practice. The report is attached

(Attachment 3) and covers the 2024/25 financial year; once Council has adopted the report it will be publicly advertised, as required. Refer to Recommendation 3 below.

9. Financial Implications

9.1 If Council decides to waive building consent fees for the for the Ratana Te Manuao Project, this will have financial implications in terms of loss of revenue.

9.2 There are no other significant financial implications associated with this report.

10. Impact on Strategic Risks

10.1 Failure to honour the commitments of Te Tiriti o Waitangi

10.1.1 The role of mana whenua on the Shareholder Committee upholds Te Tiriti commitments.

10.2 Legal and political environment requires excessive resources / changes to governmental legislation are transformational:

10.2.1 Tracking external submissions ensures Council is aware of upcoming legislative changes which may require resources.

10.3 Obligations with health, safety and wellbeing are not met:

10.3.1 The Health, Safety and Wellbeing dashboards are attached. There is a strong focus on Health, Safety and Wellbeing within the organisation.

11. Strategic Alignment

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

12. Mana Whenua Implications

12.1 Members of the Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti receive the submission list and, if time allows, asked for input into specific draft submissions.

12.2 Iwi play a key part in CDW, with advice being provided by Nga Tapūwae o Hau and representation on the Shareholders Committee.

12.3 There are no other known mana whenua implications associated with this report.

13. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

14. Statutory Implications

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

14.2 The annual report on dog control policy and practice is included in this report, as required under Section 10A(3) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

14.3 A request to waive building consent fees has statutory implications, 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.

14.4 There are no other statutory implications associated with this report.

15. Decision Making Process

15.1 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 & Wellbeing Dashboard - February 2026** [↓](#)
2. **Current and Upcoming Submissions - March 2026** [↓](#)
3. **Annual Dog Control Report 2024/25** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the report Chief Executive's Report – March 2026 be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council agrees / does not agree [delete one] to waive building consent costs for the Ratana Te Manuao Project for the amount of \$_____.

Recommendation 3

That the Annual Report on Dog Control Policy and Practices, required under Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996, be adopted.



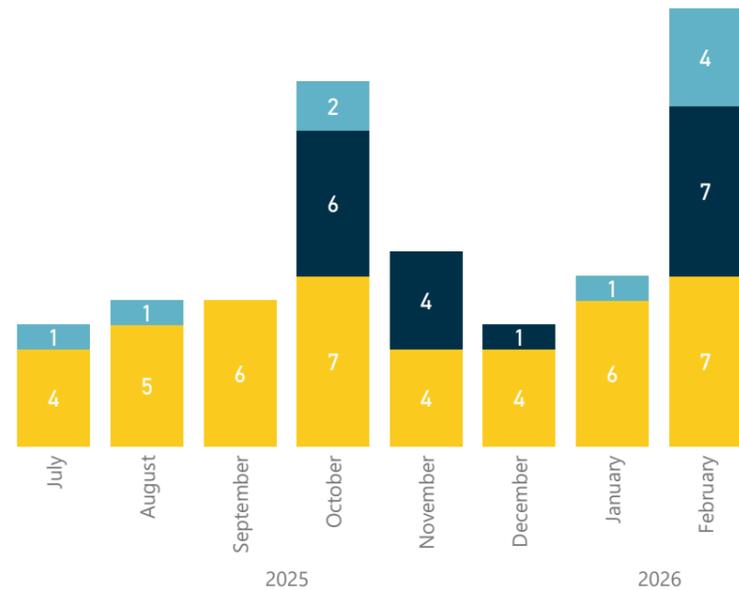
RDC Health and Safety Dashboard February 2026

ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 1

Events, Hazards and Near Misses

01 July 2025 to date

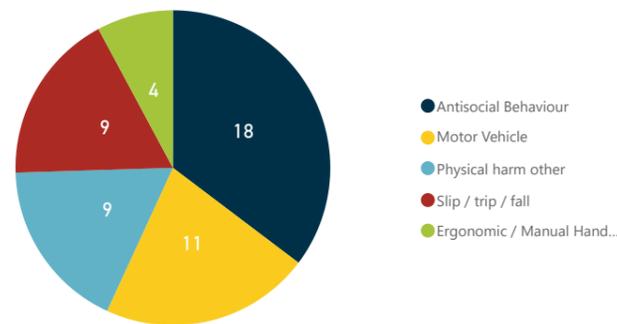
● Event ● Hazard ● Near Miss



Category

Events, Hazards and Near Misses

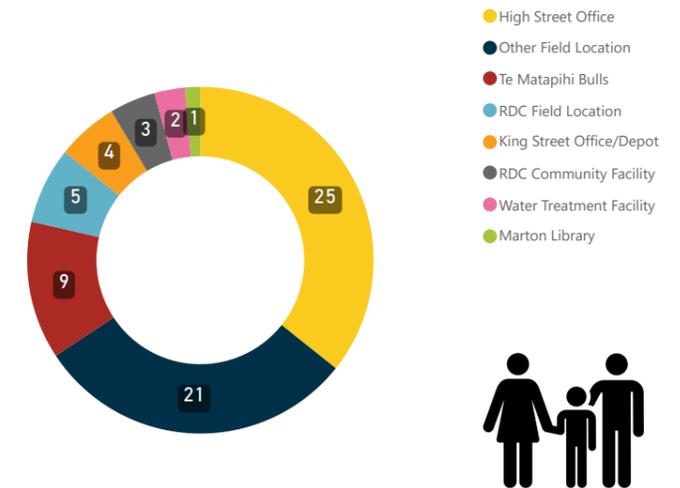
01 July 2025 to date (Top 5 Categories)



Total Events, Hazards and Near Misses: 70

Location

Events, Hazards and Near Misses



WorkSafe Notifications

Notifiable Incidents

0

Month

1

YTD

Notifiable Injuries / Illnesses

0

Month

0

YTD

Contractor Notifications

0

Month

1

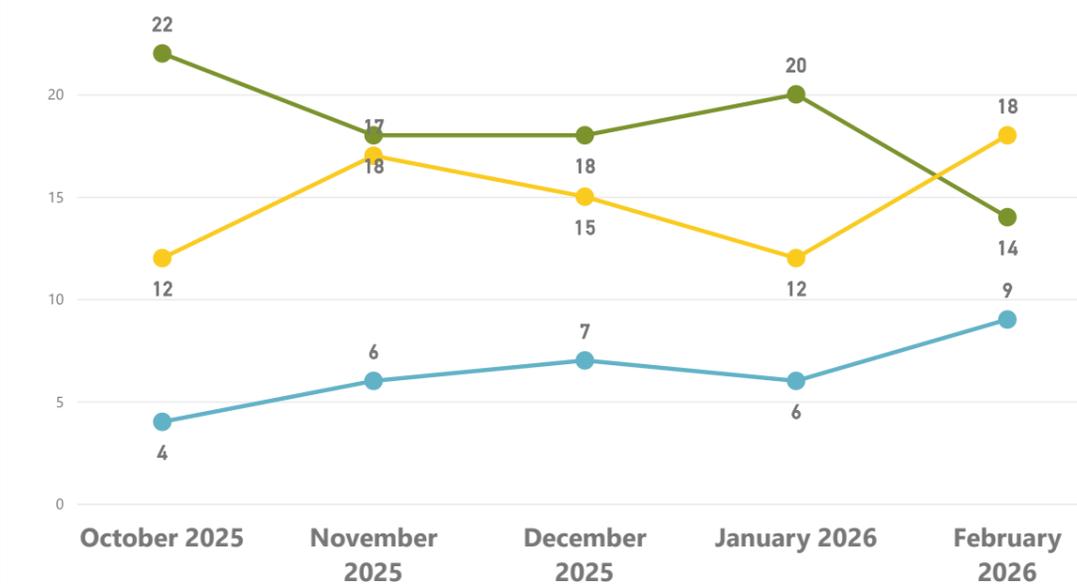
YTD

Average Driver Ratings

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

71% Completed Driver Safety Training

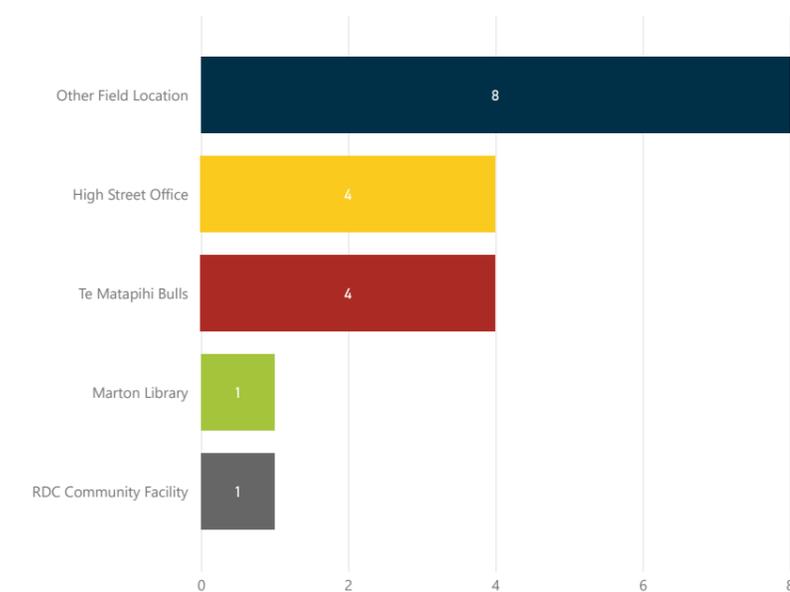
● 5 Stars ● 4 Stars ● 3 Stars



Antisocial Behaviour - per location

Year to date

Location ● Other Field Location ● High Street Office ● Te Matapihi Bulls ● Marton Library ● RDC Community Fa...



Current Consultations

Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Description	RDC Action
Currently open for submissions				
Proposals to Change Total Mobility https://www.transport.govt.nz/consultations/proposals-to-strengthen-total-mobility	Ministry of Transport	22 March	Six proposals for change to the total mobility scheme.	None
Health and Safety at Work Amendment Bill https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/E4103A7F-58CE-43C5-17A0-08DE679093DF?lang=en	Parliament Education and Workforce Committee	18 March	This bill is intended to reduce unnecessary compliance costs, increase certainty for businesses and organisations about their obligations, and continue to reduce the incidence of workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses. It clarifies tha businesses do not owe health and safety duties to individuals engaging in recreational activities on their land (unless the business has work happening on the same part of the land at the same time).	Submit
Consultation on lane use improvements https://nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/consultation-on-lane-use-improvements	NZTA	25 March	NZTA is seeking feedback on proposals to: allow children aged 12 years and under to ride bikes on footpaths, set a minimum passing gap for when vehicles pass other road users, allow people to ride e-scooters in cycle lanes, require drivers to give way to buses leaving bus stops, and clarify signage requirements for enforcing berm parking restrictions.	None
NZTA Procurement Manual - feedback from Approved Organisations https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/nzta-procurement-manual-feedback-from-approved-organisations	New Zealand Transport Agency	31 March	The current manual dates from 2022. An updated, simplified manual is currently being developed to reflect the new Government Procurement Rules and create a more modern, user-friendly resource.	None
Proposed options to improve the traceability of pigs and sheep https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/proposals-to-improve-the-traceability-of-pigs-and-sheep	Ministry for Primary Industries	5 April	The Ministry wants to improve its ability to trace pigs and sheep rapidly and accurately during an animal disease response, especially foot and mouth disease. The options are not mutually exclusive because the best option for each species could be different because of their production systems or trade requirements.	None
Infringement scheme https://www.stats.govt.nz/news/stats-nz-opens-public-consultation-on-infringement-scheme/	Statistics New Zealand	6 April	Stats seeks feedback on the proposed design of the infringement scheme, including fee and fine amounts. Until now, the only enforcement tool is prosecution.	None
Targeted speed limit reviews: Manawatū-Whanganui region https://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/driving-safely/speed/state-highway-speed-management/speed-limit-reviews-under-the-2024-rule/targeted-speed-limit-reviews-manawatu-whanganui-region	New Zealand Transport Agency	9 April	Permanent speed reductions are proposed. Of particular relevance is the SH1/Kakariki Road intersection where NZTA proposes a reduction from 100km/h to 60km/h when the electronically activated Intersection Speed Zone is activated	Under consideration
Access to cash https://consultations.rbnz.govt.nz/rbnz/access-to-cash/consult_view/?_gl=1*be85al*_ga*MTczMDYyMTRk4NS4xNzcyMTUyMDg3*_ga_51JCWD9FGD*_czE3NzlxNTIwODckbzEkZzEkdDE3NzlxNTIzMzckajE4JGwwJGgw	Reserve Bank	10 April	This consultation seeks public feedback on a proposal to introduce a cash services standard that would apply to New Zealand’s banks. The standard would set a floor under the number and location of places where bank customers can withdraw, deposit and swap cash (for example, exchanging a \$50 banknote for \$5 banknotes and coins). For Rangitikei, the Bank proposes 4 multi-bank, full-service cash sites in the district, at Ratana, Bulls, Marton and Taihape. The district currently has 12 partial service sites. ☑ ‘Multi-bank, full-service cash sites’ refer to sites where customers of any bank can – at no charge – access cash withdrawal, cash deposit and cash swap services. ☑ ‘Partial service sites’ refers to sites where customers may be able to withdraw cash but cannot deposit cash or swap cash to acquire low denomination banknotes and coins. Moreover, at partial service sites the services may not be available to customers of some banks.	Under consideration

**Rangitikei District Council Report pursuant to
Section 10A of the Dog Control Act 1996**

for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025

PART 1 – Dog Control Policy and Practices

1. Dog Control in the District

Number of dog owners: 2,356

Total number of registered dogs: 4,969

- 2,440 working dogs
- 1,900 Good Dog Owner category
- 629 non-working dogs

The Council employs five Animal Control Officers (ACOs) and one Manager Animal Control.

A shared services agreement with Manawatū District Council remains in place and is renewed on a three-year basis. Under this arrangement:

- Two ACOs are based in Rangitikei.
- Two ACOs are based in Manawatū.
- One ACO operates as a permanent floater operating between the two districts.
- A weekly after-hours roster ensures one ACO is on-call for both districts.
- The Manager Animal Control oversees operations across both districts.

The Animal Control team operates 24/7 to respond to service requests and complaints within the timeframes specified in the Council's Long Term and Annual Plans. Proactive efforts focused on identifying unregistered and wandering dogs, and addressing complaints related to aggressive dog behaviour, including attacks.

Normal hours of operation are 8am – 5pm on weekdays. Animal Control Officers work on rostered shifts to enable 24-hour response to Priority One calls after hours including weekends and public holidays. Priority One calls include dog attacks and secured dogs.

A graduated enforcement approach was employed for all unregistered dogs, progressing from property inspections to verbal or written warnings, infringement notices, and impounding as a final measure.

Complaints

During the reporting period, total complaints received decreased from 949 in 2023–2024 to 819 in 2024–2025, representing a reduction of approximately 14%.

Ongoing proactive enforcement of registration compliance and targeted follow-up on previously identified non-compliant properties may also have improved overall owner accountability. Early intervention in response to service requests can reduce repeat complaints and escalation.

It is also possible that changes in reporting behaviour are influencing overall complaint numbers. As noted in last years report, some members of the public increasingly utilise social media platforms to resolve lost or wandering dog matters directly, rather than contacting Council. This may reduce the number of formally recorded service requests without necessarily reflecting a proportional decrease in underlying incidents.

Wandering animals (stats include stock) accounted for 34% of all service requests. While some are identified through proactive patrols, Council relies significantly on public reporting. Increasingly, members of the public post lost, found, or roaming dogs on social media rather than contacting Council directly. This can result in delays before Council is notified and may allow owners to recover dogs without enforcement action.

Barking dog complaints represented 15% of service requests. Contributing factors include increased workforce commitments leading to separation anxiety, reduced socialisation, and changes in living arrangements. Council's Barking Dog Process continues to provide an effective framework for resolving complaints.

Overall, while the reduction in complaints is a positive indicator, continued monitoring of trends will be necessary to determine whether this represents sustained behavioural change within the community or variability in reporting patterns.

Infringements

There was a slight increase in infringement notices issued compared with the previous year (50 compared with 46). This increase is primarily attributed to non-compliance with dog registration requirements, including failure to notify Council when dogs were relocated, deceased, retired, or removed from the district.

Court action may be initiated once an infringement remains unpaid for 56 days.

2. Dog Control Enforcement Practices

During the reporting period, Animal Control Officers responded to **819 service requests**, comprising:

- 60 attacks (human and animal, including rushing incidents)
- 122 barking complaints
- 280 wandering/stray dogs (including stock)
- 23 animal welfare/property investigations
- 97 found dogs
- 73 lost dogs
- 164 other matters (microchipping, Good Dog Owner status enquiries, bylaw matters, general requests)

A total of **50 infringement notices** were issued.

3. Dogs in Prohibited, Leash-Only and Exercise Areas

Issues relating to dogs in prohibited public places are uncommon within the district. Where dogs are reported as unaccompanied in restricted areas, Animal Control Officers respond promptly.

4. Dog Registration and Fees

Registration fees for the 2024–2025 year were adjusted as follows:

- Non-working dogs: \$155 → \$160
- Non-working (neutered/spayed): \$104 → \$105
- Good Dog Owner category: \$73 → \$75
- Working dogs: \$50 → \$55

The fee structure reflects the level of service associated with each category. The Good Dog Owner classification incentivises responsible dog ownership.

To qualify, owners must:

- Adequately fence their property
- De-sex their dog (where applicable)
- Maintain a good ownership record

- Register their dog on time
- Provide appropriate care, including a secure yard and weatherproof kennel of sufficient size

Where dogs remain unregistered following warnings, Animal Control Officers visit properties previously recorded as housing registered dogs. If confirmed unregistered, an infringement notice is issued and, where necessary, dogs may be impounded under Section 42 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

5. Dog Education and Obedience Programmes

Council contracts a qualified instructor to deliver a dog safety education programme to schools throughout the district. The programme continues to receive positive feedback.

The instructor uses her own dogs during presentations to reinforce key safety messages.

During the year, Council supported the provider by purchasing copies of a dog safety book authored by the instructor for children aged 5–8 years. The books are distributed following presentations. An Animal Control Officer attends sessions where operationally possible.

6. Disqualified and Probationary Dog Owners

No owners were classified as disqualified or probationary during the reporting period.

7. Menacing and Dangerous Dogs

There were no issues of non-compliance by owners of menacing dogs during the year.

As at 30 June 2025, there are **three dogs** classified as dangerous under Section 31(1)(b) of the Dog Control Act 1996 within the district.

8. Multiple Dog Permits

Under the Control of Dogs Bylaw, owners in residential areas must obtain a permit if keeping more than two dogs.

This policy has contributed to a reduction in barking complaints, roaming incidents, and general disturbances associated with higher dog numbers.

PART 2 – Statistical Information

Category	As at 30 June 2024	As at 30 June 2025
Total Registered Dogs	5,034	4,969
Total Probationary Owners	Nil	Nil
Total Disqualified Owners	Nil	Nil
Total Dangerous Dogs	2	3
- Dangerous (s31(1)(a) – Owner Conviction)	Nil	Nil
- Dangerous (s31(1)(b) – Sworn Evidence)	2	3
- Dangerous (s31(1)(c) – Owner Admission)	Nil	Nil
Total Menacing Dogs	40	36
- Menacing (s33A(1)(b)(i) – Behaviour)	20	17
- Menacing (s33A(1)(b)(ii) – Breed Characteristics)	3	6
- Menacing (s33C(1) – Schedule 4 Breed)	17	13
Total Infringement Notices Issued	46	50
Total Complaints Received	949	819
- Attacks	77	60
- Barking Dogs	153	122
- Wandering Animals	261	280
- Animal Welfare/ Property Inspections	34	23
- Found/ secured Dogs	102	97
- Lost Dogs	96	73
- Other (Microchipping, Good Dog Owner status, Bylaw, Multi-Doig Permits and General requests)	170	164
-		
Total Prosecutions Taken	Nil	Nil
Infringements Sent to Court	16	29

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Adoption of the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co for Consultation

Author: Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager

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

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co. consultation material and supporting information to Council for their consideration and adoption for public consultation.

2. Overview of documents for consultation

Annual Plan 2026/27

- 2.1 Every three (3) years Council is required to prepare a Long Term Plan (LTP). In the interim years that a LTP is not prepared, an Annual Plan must be prepared. An Annual Plan provides a work programme for a particular financial year. Public consultation is required only when there will be '*significant or material*' changes to what was identified for that year in the relevant LTP.
- 2.2 Council has held a number of workshops on the 2026/27 budgets and has not identified any significant or material changes. However, Council still wanted to share with the community what it has planned for the 2026/27 financial year and to provide an opportunity for the community to make formal feedback on what is planned/budgeted. Officers have prepared the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co document to provide this opportunity for community discussion.
- 2.3 The Annual Plan supporting information is attached under separate cover. Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co will be circulated separately (under separate cover).

Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27

- 2.4 The Council reviews its Schedule of Fees and Charges every year. Some fees and charges are set by legislation, and therefore, remain unchanged. Most other fees and charges have been increased by 2.6%, the CPI index provided by BERL, before being rounded.
- 2.5 Other fees and charges have been amended to more accurately reflect the actual cost increase of delivering that service and/or legislative changes to an activity. A list of the more substantial changes are outlined below:
 - Changes to the fee structure for building consents to reflect the move to 'Objective Build' system.
 - Metered water charges are proposed to be removed as these are set by rates resolution.
 - Minor additions – such as cleaning fees, the recycling trailer, and other service provision, streamlining hall charges.
- 2.6 The Draft Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 and Statement of Proposal is attached (under separate cover).

Revenue and Finance Policy

- 2.7 Concurrent within consultation on the Annual Plan 2026/27, the Council is also consulting on some minor proposed amendments to its Revenue and Financing Policy (R&F Policy). Council is required to have a R&F Policy under s102(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). The R&F Policy outlines how Council will fund the different activities (i.e. services and infrastructure) that it is responsible for, including why it has chosen certain funding mechanisms for different activities.
- 2.8 Section 102(4)(b) of the LGA allows Council to amend its R&F Policy at any time subject to undertaking consultation in a manner that gives effect to s82 of the LGA. Council is proposing to update its R&F Policy to make the allocation of funding for all activities more transparent (i.e. remove the “piggy bank” images and use percentages instead) and update some of the funding splits for certain activities to be more reflective of how these activities will be funded in 2026/27.
- 2.9 Under s103(4) any significant changes to a R&F Policy must be audited. The changes that are currently proposed are considered to be minor in nature, and therefore, do not need to be audited.
- 2.10 An Amended Revenue and Financing Policy is attached (under separate cover).

Rates Remission Policy

- 2.11 The Council will also be concurrently consulting on proposed changes to its Rates Remission Policy. A Rates Remission Policy outlines instances when Council may remit rates including the conditions and criteria that an application for a rates remission is assessed against.
- 2.12 Councils may choose to have a Rates Remission Policy under s102(3)(a) of the LGA. Section 109(2A)(a) requires that any review of its Rates Remission Policy must be consulted on in accordance with s82 of the LGA.
- 2.13 Various amendments are proposed for the Rates Remission Policy. The proposed amendments largely consist of changes to improve clarity for applicants and officers as they implement this Policy (e.g. specifying dates when applications must be made by or updating references to legislation). A key proposed change is the introduction of a “Remission of Water Rates” which will be available in certain circumstances where customers experience a loss of water as a result of leaks or damage to their internal water supply.
- 2.14 The Draft Rates Remission Policy with proposed amendments is attached (under separate cover).

3. Communications and Engagement Approach

- 3.1 During consultation, the Consultation Document and supporting materials will be available on Council’s website and at all Community Hubs. This will be supported by a coordinated communications and engagement campaign across digital and print channels.
- 3.2 Elected Members, Community Boards, and Community Committees will be offered a ‘consultation pack’ containing the following materials:
- Consultation Document
 - Submission forms

- Key talking points

- 3.3 The Communications Team will make contact during the first week of consultation to coordinate distribution or collection of these packs.
- 3.4 A plain-English information insert and submission form will be delivered district-wide through the District Monitor. This insert will provide a high-level overview of what Council is consulting on, why it matters, and how to make a submission.
- 3.5 We are giving the community opportunities to host public meetings across the district. Public meetings provide residents with the opportunity to speak directly with Elected Members, ask questions, and discuss the contents of the Consultation Document and supporting materials before making a submission. Meeting dates, times, and venues will be confirmed as soon as possible and promoted across Council communication channels.
- 3.6 Short explainer videos will be published on Council’s social media and digital channels. These videos will focus on the rationale behind the proposed 6.4% average rates increase, the broader operating environment, and the trade-offs Council is navigating.
- 3.7 Promotion will also occur through email newsletters, posters, stakeholder networks, and direct engagement with key community groups to encourage participation. This layered approach is designed to improve accessibility, support informed participation, and encourage broad community engagement.
- 3.8 Submissions can be made online via Council’s website, in writing using submission forms available at Community Hubs, or by post. Submission boxes will be available at the Community Hubs and High Street office. Residents will be encouraged to provide feedback in the format most comfortable for them.

4. Discussion and Options Considered

- 4.1 Council has had multiple workshops throughout December 2025 and one in January 2026 and had the opportunity to provide direction to officers, and inform the preparation of the Annual Plan 2026/27, Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges, amended R&F Policy and Draft Rates Remission Policy.
- 4.2 For Year 3 (2026/67) of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 (LTP 2024-34) Council had projected a rate increase of 10.75%. Officers have worked to reduce costs and find efficiencies, without reducing day-to-day service levels. This has resulted in a proposed rate increase of 6.4% for 2026/27.
- 4.3 Although no significant or material changes have been identified for the proposed Annual Plan 2026/27 in comparison to what was planned for in the LTP 2024-34, Council has elected to give our community the opportunity to have their say and officers have subsequently prepared the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co document.
- 4.4 The Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2026/27, an amended R&F Policy, and Draft Rates Remission Policy will be consulted on concurrent to the Annual Plan, with summaries and submission information for these documents having been incorporated into the Annual Plan consultation material.

Options: Annual Plan 2026/27

- 4.5 **Option 1:** Council may choose to adopt the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co consultation material under section 82 of the LGA for public consultation. This option should be

chosen if Council wishes to consult with the community on what Council is proposing for the Annual Plan 2026/27.

- 4.6 **Option 2:** Council recognises that there are no significant or material changes between Year 3 of the LTP 2024-34 and what is proposed for the Annual Plan 2026/27, and therefore, that there is no requirement to consult on the Annual Plan 2025/26.
- 4.7 This option should be chosen if Council is content that the LTP 2024-34 consultation adequately informed the community of Council's priorities for this coming financial year and provided the community with the sufficient opportunity to have their say. Council subsequently may decide not to consult and instead directs officers to finalise the Annual Plan 2026/27 for adoption before 30 June 2026.

Options: Amended Revenue and Financing Policy

- 4.8 **Option 1:** Council may adopt the Amended R&F Policy for consultation. This option should be chosen if Council is comfortable with the proposed amendments and is ready for this amended policy to be consulted on.
- 4.9 **Option 2:** Council could request that officers make additional changes to the R&F Policy and bring it back to Council at a later date to adopt for consultation. It should be noted that if further amendments are considered to be significant that this will trigger the requirement for an audit in accordance with s103(4) of the LGA.
- 4.10 If this option is preferred, then the delay would mean that consultation would be delayed and the cost efficiencies (which is largely officer time) of it being done concurrent with consultation on the Annual Plan 2026/27 would be lost.
- 4.11 It should be noted that Council has the opportunity to explore more extensive changes (if it sees merit in doing so) at a later date e.g. during the preparation of the next LTP.

Options: Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27

- 4.12 **Option 1:** That Council adopts the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 for consultation. This option should be chosen if Council believes the fees and charges are ready to be consulted on.
- 4.13 **Option 2:** The Council request that officers make additional changes to the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges before bringing them back to Council to adopt for consultation. This option is not recommended as Council needs to consult on and adopt the fees and charge prior to the end of the financial year, and depending on the scale of changes this could have implications for the Year 3 budget – the Annual Plan.

Options: Draft Rates Remission Policy

- 4.14 **Option 1:** Council may choose to adopt the Draft Rates Remissions Policy for consultation. This option should be chosen if Council believes this draft policy is ready to be consulted on.
- 4.15 **Option 2:** Council may request that officers make additional changes to the Draft Rates Remission Policy before bringing it back to Council to adopt for consultation. It is officers' preference that the proposed changes to this policy be consulted on now so that they can be available for implementation (subject to any changes following consultation) for the 2026/27 financial year.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 The proposed Annual Plan 2026/27 contains the draft budget for the 2026/27 financial year.
- 5.2 The Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 sets the fees and charges that Council will required for specified services for the coming financial year. These are proposed to be inflation adjusted and other proposed changes aim to more accurately reflect the cost of providing an activity/service.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 The strategic risk *trust and confidence is tarnished* is relevant for the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co.
- 6.2 The consultation material and any supporting information needs to be clearly and accurately communicated with the community to avoid misunderstanding and to ensure any feedback members of the community provide is well-informed. Failure to do this could result in reputational damage for Council.
- 6.3 This risk has been mitigated by preparing consultation material and supporting information (where possible) in plain English, or for more technical documents such as the R&F Policy a plain English summary is provided.

7. Strategic Alignment

- 7.1 Council's strategic framework was developed during the early preparation phase of the LTP 2024-34.
- 7.2 All projects within the proposed Annual Plan 2026/27 align with one or more of the criteria of Council's strategic framework; being Environmental, Social, Economic and Cultural Wellbeing, Council as a trusted partner with iwi, and Council's Strategic priorities.
- 7.3 The R&F Policy aligns with Council's strategic framework as it outlines how Council will fund its activities which are founded in the strategic framework.
- 7.4 The proposed Fees and Charges and Draft Rates Remission Policy have strategic alignment primarily in relation to Social and Economic Wellbeing. For example, the fees and charges help enable Council to maintain services and facilities (such as sport fields and public halls) for community use and enjoyment, as well as providing space for events which can bring additional funds into our community. The Rates Remission Policy can support ratepayers in hardship or provide remissions to help enable local businesses to earthquake strengthen buildings.
- 7.5 It is noted that Council will be commencing the review of its strategic framework in the coming months as part of the early preparation phase of the LTP 2027-37. This Annual Plan has been prepared under the current framework.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

- 8.1 The proposed Annual Plan 2026/27 includes all budgets, including any budget or work programme associated with engaging with mana whenua, as well as performance measures involving Te Rōpū Ahi Kā.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 9.1 As officers develop any plans they are required to take climate change into account. Furthermore, services and projects covered in the Annual Plan 2026/27 may be subject to assessing and managing climate change impacts.

10. Statutory Implications

- 10.1 Council is required to prepare an Annual Plan in alternate years to a LTP (refer to section 95 of the LGA).
- 10.2 Council is required to identify and consult on any significant or material changes between Year 3 of the LTP 2024-34 and the proposed Annual Plan 2026/27. As there are no significant or material changes, Council cannot prepare and adopt a consultation document under section 95A of the LGA. However, as Council has chosen to consult on the proposed Annual Plan it shall do so under section 82 of the LGA. Consultation material for the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co has been prepared in accordance with section 82 and 82A of the LGA.
- 10.3 Some fees need to be consulted on using the Special Consultative Procedure set out in section 83 of the LGA, therefore the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges document will be consulted on using this process.
- 10.4 As stated previously in this report, Council is required to have a R&F Policy under s102(2)(a) of the LGA. Section 102(4)(b) of the LGA allows Council to amend its R&F Policy at any time subject to undertaking consultation in a manner that gives effect to s82 of the LGA. Council may choose to have a Rates Remission Policy under s102(3)(a) of the LGA and under s109(2A)(a) any review of its Policy must be consulted on in accordance with s82 of the LGA.

11. Decision Making Process

- 11.1 If adopted, the community will be provided an opportunity to share their views on the proposed Annual Plan 2026/27, Proposed Fees and Charges 2026/27, amended R&F Policy, and Draft Rates Remission Policy in the form of written submissions during a one month long consultation period. The consultation period is proposed to commence on 16 March 2026 and end on 17 April 2026.
- 11.2 Post consultation there will be an opportunity for those who provided a written submission, to speak to Council in person at an oral hearing if they wish to do so.
- 11.3 Following the hearing, Council will consider all written and oral feedback before adopting the Annual Plan 2026/27, Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27, R&F Policy, and Rates Remission Policy by the end of the financial year (i.e. 30 June 2026).

12. Attachments:

- 1. Annual Plan & Co (under separate cover)**
- 2. Annual Plan Supporting information (under separate cover)**
- 3. Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges and Statement of Proposal (under separate cover)**
- 4. Amended Revenue and Financing Policy (under separate cover)**
- 5. Draft Rates Remission Policy (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Adoption of the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co for Consultation' be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council confirms that there are no significant or material differences proposed between year 3 of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 and the Proposed Annual Plan 2026/27, therefore it will not consult on the Annual Plan 2026/27 under section 95A of the Local Government Act 2002.

AND

That Council adopts the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co document and the Annual Plan 2025/26 supporting information for community consultation in accordance with section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommendation 3

That Council adopts for community consultation, using the special consultative procedure outlined in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 and the associated Statement of Proposal.

Recommendation 4

That Council adopts the amended Revenue and Financing Policy and Draft Rates Remission Policy for community consultation in accordance with section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommendation 5

That Council gives the Chief Executive authority to make minor editorial and formatting changes to the following documents:

- Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co and Annual Plan supporting information,
- Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27,
- Amended Revenue and Financing Policy, and
- Rates Remission Policy

prior to publication for community consultation.

10.2 15 February Storm Event**Author:** Darryn Black, Roothing Transport Manager**Authoriser:** Carol Gordon, Chief Executive**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 To advise Council on the details surrounding the 15 February weather event.
- 1.2 To request provision of local share funding of \$598,125 to support Roothing costs associated with the 15 February weather event.
- 1.3 To request provision of \$120,000 to fund the Parks and Reserves clean-up required as a result of the February 2026 weather event. Noting that the Parks and Reserves Manager is proposing to meet \$70,000 through reduced expenditure this year, and it is recommended that the balance is funded through existing General Reserves.

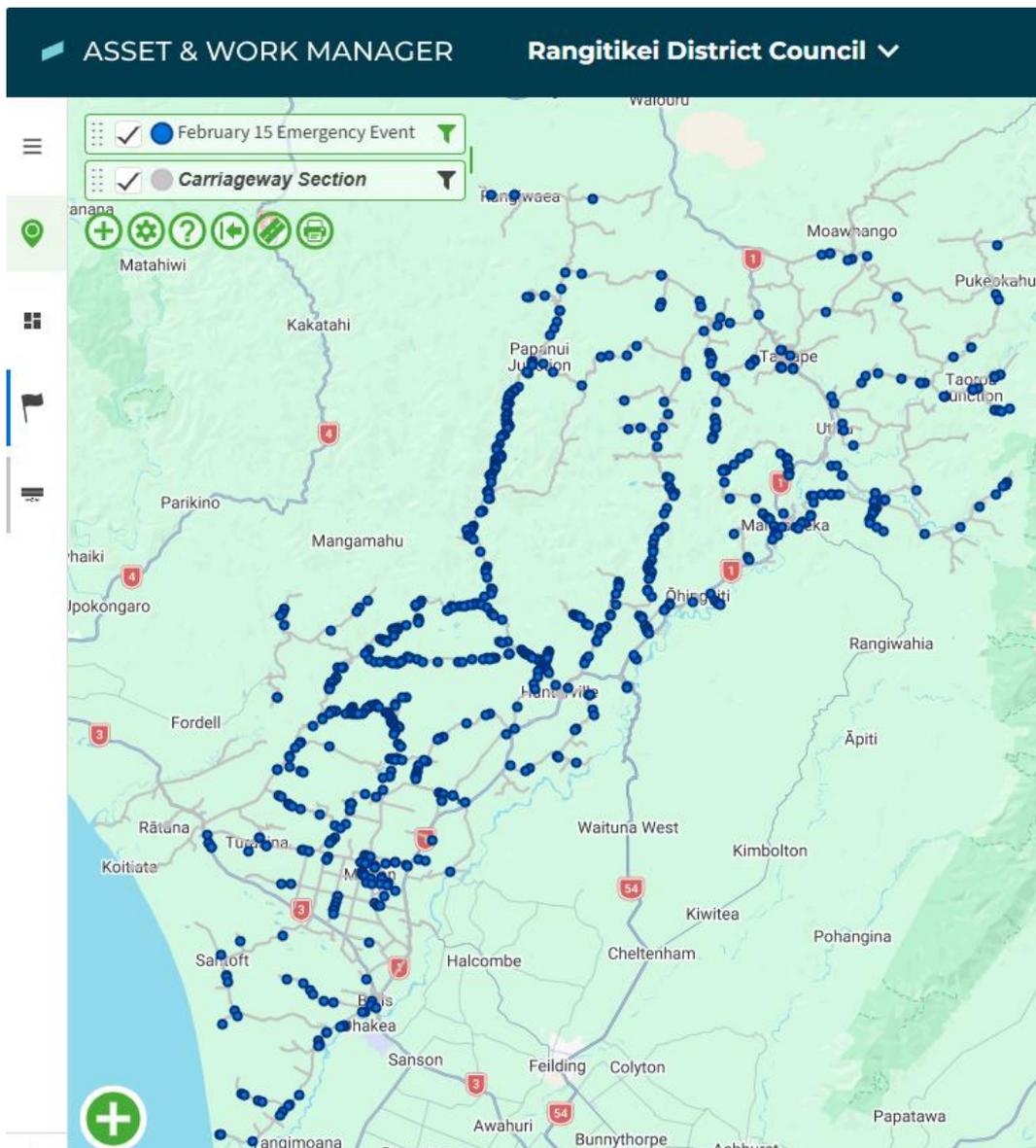
2. Context

- 2.1 On 15–16 February 2026, the Rangitikei District was impacted by a severe weather event associated with a deep low-pressure system which tracked southward along eastern areas of the North Island.
- 2.2 MetService issued a Red Heavy Rain Warning for parts of Manawatū–Rangitikei–Ruapehu, indicating a high risk of significant impacts including flooding, slips, and hazardous travel conditions. Strong and gusty winds accompanied the rainfall. The warning was active from 6pm Sunday (15 Feb) to around 2pm Monday (16 Feb).
- 2.3 MetService described this as the highest alert level, indicating significant impacts and a threat to life from dangerous river levels, flooding, slips, and hazardous travel conditions.
- 2.4 Rangitikei District Council activated its EOC (Emergency Operations Centre) on the afternoon of Sunday 15 February. Following a review of current information and potential implications the Mayor proactively declared a State of Emergency on 15 February and staff also activated a road closure on the Taihape - Napier Road as a precautionary measure.
- 2.5 As the event unfolded, it became clear that the majority of issues across the district were wind-related, with a large number of fallen trees affecting the roading network and parks and reserves across the district. There were also a number of flooding issues which caused dropouts, slips, and debris build up.
- 2.6 Widespread power outages occurred across the district due to fallen trees bringing down power lines and impacting a number of properties, some for many days.

3. Roothing

- 3.1 Damage to the roading network was widespread across the district, with the most significant impacts occurring in the Turakina Valley between Hunterville and Taihape.
- 3.2 At the height of the event, 16 road closures were in place, representing approximately 105km of closed roads. State Highway 1 was also closed between Waiouru and Hunterville.

- 3.3 The closure of State Highway 1 created secondary access pressures, with some motorists attempting to bypass the closure by travelling through the Turakina Valley via feeder roads north of Taihape. Several vehicles became stranded between two slips. With communications disrupted and the situation initially unknown to authorities, Civil Defence Controllers requested assistance from the Royal New Zealand Air Force. A NH90 helicopter was deployed to locate and extract the stranded motorists, however, local farmers had cleared slip material, and the motorists had returned to Taihape before the helicopter arrived.
- 3.4 During the first week of the response, Downer and subcontractor crews prioritised tree removal, slip clearance, and debris removal to restore safe access across the network.
- 3.5 All but two roads were reopened within four days of the event. While many of these roads were reopened it was not to their normal state, some were only accessible via one lane or with extreme caution. The remaining two roads were reopened seven days after the event, following dropout repairs and clearance works.
- 3.6 The map below illustrates the scale of the response effort, with 778 individual dispatches logged by Downer relating to response and reinstatement activities.



- 3.7 Cost estimates to cover the initial response and permanent repair as still being formulated, but the anticipated total cost for repairs to the roading network is likely to be in the order of \$2M.
- 3.8 On 3 March 2026, ahead of lodging a claim for additional funding assistance from NZTA, Council and Downer staff hosted the Regional NZTA Investment Advisor on a guided site visit to eight significant underslip sites to gauge appropriate optioneering and geotechnical assistance for a high-level agreement.
- 3.9 A briefing session was undertaken with the Advisor prior to the site visit to show the draft financial claim to date, including a debrief on weather evidence, photo samples, network response methodology, risk for recovery projects, and the way forward to submit a final claim.

4. Discussion and Options Considered

4.1 Roothing Funding Options

4.1.1 Option One

Staff will compile and submit a funding application to NZTA seeking \$2M to cover event-related costs. The local share will be funded from existing targeted Roothing Reserves, as detailed in Section 8.5.

4.1.2 Option Two

At this stage in the 2025/26 financial year, there is no capacity within existing operational budgets to absorb the estimated \$2M cost.

4.1.3 Option Three

Staff compile and submit a funding application to NZTA seeking \$2M to cover event-related costs. The required local share of \$598,000 could be met in part or in full by reconsidering Council's acceptance of NZTA's 2026/27 funding offer of \$2,816,000 (local share \$957,000), originally intended to offset unplanned 2025/26 repair costs on the Taihape–Napier Road.

5. Future Funding

- 5.1 Using the \$598k of Roothing Reserves reduces future opportunities to fund other unexpected emergency events. Council may need to consider how an emergency "targeted" fund could be established and funded over future years to ensure future funding resilience for emergency events across Council activities.

6. Impacts on Parks and Reserves Activity

6.1 Parks and Reserves Discussion and Options Considered

- 6.2 Parks and Reserves incurred a significant amount of clean-up costs from the February weather event. This is currently estimated to be between \$90,000 to \$120,000, excl GST. The Parks and Reserves Manager advised there is capacity in this years budget to cover appropriately \$70,000 as a one-off, this means deferring other planned work.

6.2.1 Option One

The Parks and Reserves Manager defer other planned maintenance and fund up to \$70,000 of the clean-up costs from existing 2025/26 budget and Council funds the balance through cash General Reserves.

6.2.2 Option Two

Council could choose to continue with the planned maintenance programme and instead loan-fund the total clean-up costs and rate the community to recover these costs in the 2026/27 financial year. This would increase the current projected rates increase by 0.3%.

7. External Funding Opportunities

- 7.1 The Council’s Chief Executive has had discussions on whether there are any external funds that could be used to offset costs in relation to the parks clean up and safety reports on some of our affected trees. Unfortunately, initial advice indicated there does not seem to be any specific funds available, but agencies have encouraged further conversations with MFE and MPI.
- 7.2 These agencies may also be able to provide advice on whether there is some relief for some of our community that lost large amounts of forestry or crops, and these discussions will continue and be communicated to affected parties.

8. Financial Implications - Roothing

- 8.1 Costs associated with response and repair of the roading network can be claimed from NZTA at our Financial Assistance Rate (FAR) which is 66%.
- 8.2 NZTA rules around claims for emergency works allow for an extra 20% FAR which can be applied once costs exceed the equivalent value of 10% of our approved work programme. For RDC our 2025/26 approved programme value is \$15,906,242.
- 8.3 Response and permanent repair estimates are expected to be in the order of \$2M. This is yet to be finalised.
- 8.4 Local share for the \$2M Emergency Works Claim.

\$1,590,624 @ 66% FAR	Local Share = \$540,812
\$ 409,376 @ 86% FAR	Local Share = \$ 57,313
Total Local Share Requirement	\$598,125

(note - \$2M is a rough order estimate for the purpose of this report)
- 8.5 \$309,000 is available from Flood Damage – Targeted Roothing Reserves. The remaining \$290,000 can be funded from roading cash reserves available in the 2025/26 balance sheet.

9. Financial Implications - Parks and Reserves

- 9.1 There appears to be no financial implication with reduced expenditure in the Parks and Reserves for this year, however there will be a reduction in Councils General Reserves of approximately \$50,000 if Council agrees to Option One.
- 9.2 Although there appears to be no financial impacts on the annual budget, some planned maintenance works in the Parks and Reserves area will not be completed this year to make these funds available for the clean-up and repairs.

10. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 10.1 There are no strategic risks.

11. Strategic Alignment

11.1 Requesting funding for a weather event aligns with RDC's strategic framework by supporting resilient infrastructure, protecting community wellbeing, and ensuring the long-term sustainability and recovery of our district.

12. Mana Whenua Implications

12.1 There are no Mana Whenua implications

13. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

13.1 There are no Climate Change Impacts

14. Statutory Implications

14.1 There are no Statutory Implications

15. Decision Making Process

15.1 This is not considered to be a significant decision according to the Council's policy on Significance and Engagement.

Recommendation 1

That the Report '15 February Storm Event' be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council does /does not (delete one) approve Roding Funding Option One, to fund the local share cost of \$598,125 for damaged sustained on the roading network following the 15 February weather event. The local share will be funded from a combination of targeted Roding Reserve and cash reserves in the balance sheet.

Recommendation 3

That Council does /does not (delete one) fund the Parks and Reserves clean-up costs following the 15 February weather event by using a combination of reduced expenditure of \$70,000 and General Reserves of approximately \$50,000.

10.3 Finance/Performance 2025-2028 Terms of Reference**Author:** Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager - Corporate Services**Authoriser:** Carol Gordon, Chief Executive**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 For Council to adopt the Finance/Performance Committee terms of reference for the 2025-2028 triennium.

2. Context

- 2.1 The new triennium has commenced, and the Finance/Performance Committee has been established. With the Finance/Performance workshop scheduled for 5 March cancelled, the draft terms of reference are being presented directly to Council, in the interest of time.
- 2.2 The Chair of the Finance/Performance Committee and the Group Manager – Corporate Services have reviewed the terms of reference and at the same time reviewed the planned programme for the Risk/Assurance Committee to ensure there is no duplication of reports across the two.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

- 3.1 During 2025 the cyclical monthly/quarterly/annual reports were reviewed and aligned to the appropriate committees to eliminate the duplication of reports.
- 3.2 End-of-year reports have also been allocated to the committee that has overseen the monthly or quarterly reports throughout the year. For example, the draft annual report is presented to the Finance/Performance committee as they review the monthly progress through-out the year.
- 3.3 The content of both terms of reference are now aligned to the relevant committee and the roles they undertake.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications of adopting the committee's terms of reference.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 5.1 The committee helps mitigate strategic risks by adopting the terms of reference and therefore committing to reviewing councils financial and non-financial performance through-out the year.

6. Strategic Alignment

- 6.1 Adopting the terms of Terms of Reference and monitoring the relevant activities throughout the year meets with the strategic alignment.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

- 7.1 There are no implications here as the Mana Whenua implications are considered as part of the long term planning and subsequent annual planning processes.

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

8.1 There are no implications here as climate change impacts are considered as part of the long term planning and subsequent annual planning processes.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 There are no statutory implications.

10. Conclusion

10.1 Reviewing the terms of reference is typically a three-year cycle aligned to the new triennium and the members appointed to each committee.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 This is not a high-level decision, although essential for the direction of the committee.

Attachments:

1. **2025-2028 Finance/Performance Terms of Reference** [↓](#)

Recommendation 1

That the report Finance/Performance 2025-2028 Terms of Reference be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council adopt the Finance/Performance 2025-2028 Terms of Reference for the 2025-2028 triennium.

Finance/Performance Committee

Terms of Reference

As at DATE

Elected Members	Open to all councillors, no minimum number. His Worship the Mayor.
External Members	1 member appointed by Te Rōpū Ahi Kā (optional)
Chair	Cr Fi Dalgety
Meeting frequency	Monthly – alternating between a formal meeting and workshop
Reports to	Council

Purpose

To provide governance oversight and monitoring over the management of Council’s financial and non-financial performance against the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan.

Outcomes

The community and Council are confident that:

- Council’s financial position is:
 - Monitored and reported regularly
 - Reflects good practice
- Council’s non-financial performance is:
 - Monitored and reported on a quarterly basis
 - Reviewed and interventions put in place where required.

Terms of Reference (delegations)

- The Chair will provide a monthly report.
- Oversee all financial policies, including the Financial Strategy, Revenue and Financing Policy, and Rates Remission Policy.
- To monitor Council’s treasury management against its treasury policies, including funding and investment arrangements with external parties (e.g. the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency) and operating within LGFA’s specified covenants.
- To review the Annual Report and recommend its adoption to by Council.
- To review Council’s financial suite of reporting statements and measures, including
 - The monthly snapshot detailing Income and Expense progress, noting material variances at the earliest opportunity

- Detailed capital expenditure progress compared to the capital programme of work. Updating the committee on any risk to achieving the planned end of year results.
- Revised budgets reflecting updates as a result of Council Resolutions, carry forwards and any material changes to reflect the most recent forecast for the end of year results
- On an annual basis (or earlier if requested) a Rates Remission report detailing the number of remissions granted in comparison to prior year.
- On a quarterly basis review information around Property data including
 - the Quotable Value (QV) report detailing movements on property values and sales
 - Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) updates, signalling any points of interest
 - Reports from Debt Management Central (DMC) which details RDC's outstanding debt with DMC, their collection rate year to date and reporting on any enforced property sales.
- Fee waivers granted by the Chief Executive will be reported on six monthly, typically for the period ending 31 December and 30 June.
- To monitor and oversee the delivery of Council's non-financial performance against the agreed levels of service and targets outlined in the Long Term Plan / Annual Plan. This includes reviewing the quarterly statement of service provision report.

Sub-committees

- Community Grants Committee

10.4 Adoption of Local Governance Statement

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

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To provide the Local Governance Statement to Council for adoption.

2. Context

2.1 The Local Governance Statement is required to be prepared and publicly available within six months of the triennial election.

2.2 The purpose of the Local Governance Statement is to provide information about how Council operates, how it makes decisions, and how members of the community can influence these processes. It supports the purpose of local government by promoting democracy and provides information on how to influence local democratic processes.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

3.1 Minor changes have been suggested to update the Local Governance Statement to ensure information is current as at 2026. The reviewed Local Governance Statement is attached (Attachment 1). Once approved by Council the document will be formatted and uploaded to the website.

3.2 Option 1: Adopt the Local Governance Statement.

3.2.1 Under this option Council would adopt the Local Governance Statement. Minor amendments could be made as part of this process. Officers would then complete formatting of the document and upload to Council’s website.

3.3 Option 2: Direct officers to make changes and provide an amended Local Governance Statement to a subsequent Council meeting.

3.3.1 This option enables Elected Members to request officers make significant changes to the draft document, with a revised version to be provided to a future Council meeting.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

5.1 There are no impacts on strategic risks.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 The Local Governance Statement is a procedural document.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 There are no direct mana whenua implications resulting from the adoption of the Local Governance Statement. The Local Governance Statement references Māori Wards, Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and the Memorandum of Understanding: Tūtohinga.

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

8.1 There are no climate change impacts.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 The Local Governance Statement is required to be reviewed within six months of the local government election (section 40 of the Local Government Act 2002) – 11 April 2026.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 This item is not considered to be significant.

Attachments:

- 1. Draft Local Governance Statement 2025-2028 (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report Adoption of Local Governance Statement be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Local Governance Statement 2025 – 2028 be adopted [without amendment / as amended].

11 Reports for Information

11.1 2026/27 Roading Funding

Author: Darryn Black, Roading Transport Manager

Authoriser: Arno Benadie, Deputy Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This report outlines the impact on the 2024/27 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) arising from unplanned works undertaken on Taihape–Napier Road during the 2025/26 financial year.
- 1.2 The report also outlines the receipt of additional funding of \$2,816,000 from NZTA and explains how this funding will be allocated within the 2025/27 work programme.

2. Context

- 2.1 NLTP funding is administered in three-year cycles. Prior to the commencement of each cycle, councils prepare work programmes for major asset groups and submit these to NZTA as supporting evidence to secure NLTP funding.
- 2.2 During funding cycles work programmes can be amended to react to differing situations but generally the funding received is fixed and does not change to accommodate unplanned work (Emergency Work is an exception).
- 2.3 Following the closure of the Ruapehu Mills in September 2024 the Taihape–Napier Road was subject to a significant increase in heavy traffic as logs that would have been processed at the mills had to be transported to the Port of Napier.
- 2.4 The subsequent accelerated deterioration of the road required us to react and reprioritise our work programmes so we could maintain the road to an acceptable standard.
- 2.5 This issue was communicated to NZTA at multiple levels. While NZTA was sympathetic, no additional funding was available within the 2024/27 NLTP until it became apparent that a national funding surplus would arise. This surplus resulted from severe weather events affecting multiple South Island councils, where the scale of additional emergency reinstatement works inhibited their ability to deliver their planned 2024/27 work programmes.
- 2.6 RDC applied for and was successful in securing an additional \$2,816,000 in funding to offset the cost of unplanned works on Taihape–Napier Road and to enable delivery of our 2024/27 work programme.

3. Programme Impact

- 3.1 Sealed Road Pavement Rehabilitation Programme
 - 3.1.1 Pavement condition at four sites on Taihape–Napier Road deteriorated rapidly and progressed beyond the point where recovery through heavy maintenance or resurfacing was viable. These sites required full-width pavement rehabilitation

and had not been identified in the approved work programmes for investment at this level.

3.1.2 The unplanned work pushed programmed pavement rehabilitation work ahead by one year. As a result planned 2025/26 Pavement Rehabilitation Programme sites near Marton at Williamsons Line and Fern Flats Road were deferred to 2026/27.

3.1.3 The site on Fern Flats Road has performed reasonably well and has not required additional holding repairs. In contrast, additional holding repairs have been required on Williamsons Line due to higher volumes of heavy traffic, as it serves as a primary route for northbound refuse trucks travelling to the Bonny Glen Landfill via Wanganui Road. While the associated expenditure is not material in isolation, the frequency of intervention indicates accelerated pavement deterioration is occurring and that the pavement rehabilitation work should not be deferred again.

3.2 Sealed Pavement Maintenance (includes pre-seal repairs)

3.2.1 The 2025/26 work programme included 20 km of resurfacing on Taihape–Napier Road; however, the extent of pre-seal treatment required was significantly greater than would have been anticipated under historic traffic volumes.

3.2.2 This has impacted on delaying other pavement maintenance work across the district, where some sites are incurring holding treatments until more major work can be undertaken.

3.2.3 It is standard practice to undertake pre-seal repairs in the year preceding a reseal programme. This allows the first seal cost on patches sufficient time to cure prior to the application of the final surfacing treatment.

A further implication of the Taihape–Napier work is that, once the 2026/27 resurfacing programme is finalised (in March 2026), there will be insufficient budget provision in 2025/26 to undertake pre-seal repairs, resulting in those works being deferred to 2026/27.

4. Funding Allocation

4.1 Council accepted NZTA’s offer of funding at the meeting held on 12 February 2026. The extra funding is subject to our normal Financial Assistance Rate (FAR) of 66%.

4.2 The extra funding has been applied to the Pothole Prevention group of budgets in the 2026/27 financial year and is currently split with \$816,000 in Sealed Pavement Maintenance (Opex) and \$2,000,000 in Sealed Pavement Rehabilitation (Capex).

4.3 Budget can be apportioned by RDC so long as it remains within any of these activities,

- Sealed pavement maintenance
- Unsealed pavement maintenance
- Routine drainage maintenance
- Unsealed road metalling
- Sealed road resurfacing
- Drainage renewals
- Sealed road pavement rehabilitation

5. 2026/27 Sealed Road Pavement Rehabilitation Programme

- 5.1 The NLTP programme identified pavement rehabilitation candidate sites for delivery in 2026/27. Since that programme was developed in 2023, additional higher-priority sites have emerged.
- 5.2 The previously identified sites will continue to be monitored and will be programmed once their deterioration reaches the point where significant intervention is required. The locations of these sites are:
- Griffins Road
 - Wellington Road (between Kensington Road and Hendersons Line)
 - Okirae Road
 - Oxford Street
 - Morris Street
- 5.3 The additional higher priority sites for inclusion in the 2026/27 programme are:
- Station Rd between Rira Street and Waitere Street
 - Asphalt resurfacing Broadway / High Street roundabout
 - Asphalt resurfacing High Street / Wanganui Road Intersection
 - Asphalt resurfacing Bond Street / Calico Line Intersection
- Note – Asphalt resurfacing is deemed to be Pavement Rehabilitation when the surface has a structural function which is the case at these intersections.
- 5.4 Deferred sites from 2025/26 for inclusion in the 2026/27 programme are:
- Fern Flats Road
 - Williamsons Line (3 sites)
- 5.5 We are in the process of confirming construction estimates and will advise the Assets and Infrastructure Committee of any programme changes.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications, the increased 2026/27 budget was approved by Council at the 12 February meeting.

7. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 7.1 There are no impacts on strategic risks.

8. Strategic Alignment

- 8.1 Projects align with strategic goals.

9. Mana Whenua Implications

- 9.1 There are no Mana Whenua implications.

10. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 10.1 There is no climate change impact.

11. Statutory Implications

11.1 There are no statutory implications.

ITEM 11.1

Recommendation

That the report 2026/27 Roading Funding be received.

11.2 Finance Snapshot - January 2026

Author: Warren Pedley, Manager Finance and Partnerships

Authoriser: Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager - Corporate Services

1. Reason for Report

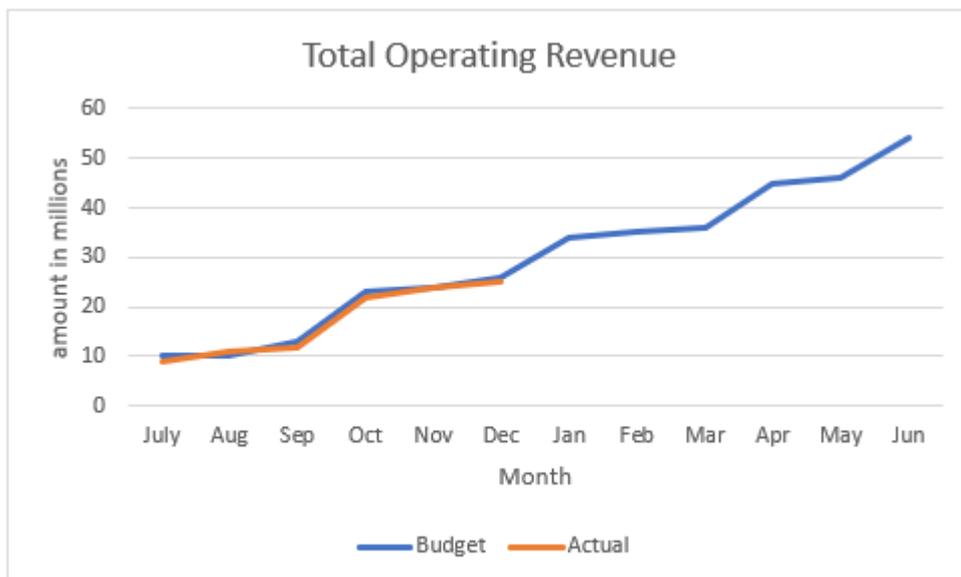
1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the management accounts and related commentary as at 31 January 2026, for both the operational and capital activities against the 2025/26 Annual Plan.

2. Whole of Council Financial Performance

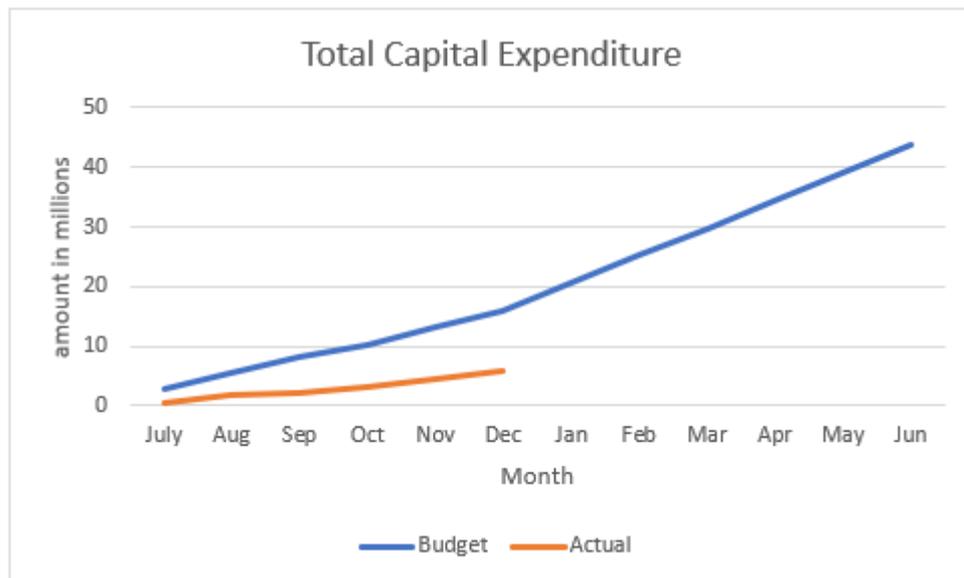
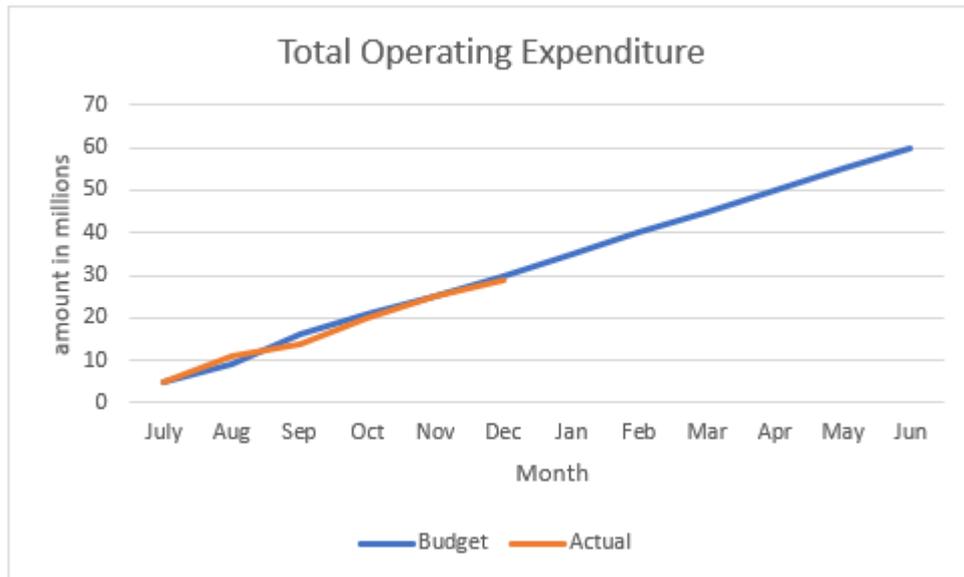
2.1 The attached Whole of Council Performance Report highlights budget variances that are best considered ‘at Group level’ in the individual accompanying Group Financial Summary Reports.

2.2 As at 31 January 2026, the overall surplus is \$993k ahead of the expected budget for the same period. Total Operating Revenue is under budget by \$812k, this is offset by overall operating expenditure, which is also under budget by \$1.8m.

2.3 The following trend line graphs for Operational Revenue, Operational Expenditure and Capital Expenditure.



ITEM 11.2



The attached Group Financial Summary Reports provide commentary on operational budget variances typically in excess of \$100k. Council will be able to see where the revenue and costs differ to budget through the activity detail.

3. Capital Expenditure

- 3.1 The attached summary shows capital budget variances split by cost centre with the larger budgets (>\$500k) being shown separately. The total value of the capital programme is \$43.2M., which includes carry forwards as approved by Council in September 2025. YTD \$7.5M of expenditure has occurred reflecting 17.4% of the annual programme.
- 3.2 The current February Snapshot will include a further revision to the Capital programme of work, reflecting officers most up-to-date projections for the end of year capital spend based on the latest information.

3.3 Commentary regarding the majority of these capital budgets is provided in the *Projects Update Report* that is reviewed at Council Meetings and previously at Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meetings.

Investments

3.4 Council’s current liquidity position as at 31 January 2026 is as follows:

3.4.1 Current Assets

- Bank/Deposits \$ 10.9m
- Receivables \$6.4m
- Prepayments \$0.9m
- **Total \$18.2m**

3.4.2 Current Liabilities

- Payables \$ 1.1m

Net Current Treasury Position \$ 17.1m

4. Borrowing

The following table shows the Council’s external debt at \$54m (unchanged since 30 June 2025) for the period ended 31 January 2026. It also shows the interest rate along with the annual cost of interest, (noting that the annual cost is an estimate based on the current interest rate applicable to the short-term commercial papers council has borrowed against and this also excludes the impact of hedging).

Total External Debt

Amount Borrowed	Settled Date	Maturity Date	Fixed Rate of Interest	Annual Interest Cost
\$ 3m	10/05/2019	15/04/2029	3.12%	\$ 94k
\$ 5m	8/02/2022	14/04/2033	3.68%	\$184k
\$11m	14/04/2022	15/04/2027	4.17%	\$459k
\$ 5m	27/04/2023	15/05/2028	5.10%	\$255k
\$ 7m	12/06/2023	15/05/2028	5.30%	\$371k
\$ 9m	15/04/2024	15/04/2026	5.62%	\$506k
\$ 4m	4/06/2024	20/04/2029	5.55%	\$222k
\$ 5m	22/10/2025	19/02/2026	2.71%	\$136k
\$ 5m	27/11/2025	27/02/2026	2.61%	\$131k
\$54m				\$2.36m

4.1 Council’s LTP reflected that debt is budgeted to remain within its Debt Ceiling and Debt Limit throughout the term of the LTP (the Debt Ceiling is Council’s maximum debt it can access from LGFA; less a self-imposed amount of at least \$4m to \$5m lower than the Debt Ceiling, to allow for unforeseen costs).

4.2 The above table shows the annual cost of interest expense anticipated to be \$2.36m per annum (approx. \$196.6k per month), providing a current weighted average cost of funds of 4.35%. However, these costs are partially offset by the borrowed money earning interest income before it is used. Year to date (31 January 2026) this interest income amounted to \$216k.

4.3 The following table discloses Council’s debt by activity. Council borrows to fund capital expenditure in accordance with the Revenue and Financing Policy.

Total Loans By Activity

Activity	Internal Loans as at 30/06/2025 \$000	External loans allocated as at 31/01/2026 \$000	Total Loans as at 31/12/2025 \$000
Roading and Footpaths	2,755	11,500	14,255
Water Supplies			
District Urban	13,540	5,000	18,540
Total for Water Supplies	13,540	5,000	18,540
Wastewater/ Sewerage Disposal	411	24,300	24,711
Stormwater Drainage	1,597	400	1,997
Community and Leisure Assets			
Real Estate	307		307
Swim Centres	641		641
Civil defence	8		8
Community Housing	161		161
Public Toilets	641		641
Cemeteries	272		272
Libraries	509		509
Halls	1,952	5,580	7,532
Domains	25	6,500	6,525
Total Community & Leisure Assets	4,516	12,080	16,596
Waste Transfer Stations	49	320	369
Other Activities			
Community Leadership			-
Environment & Regulatory Services			-
Community Wellbeing			-
Forestry	4		4
Business Units	8	400	408
Total other activities	12	400	412
Totals	22,880	54,000	76,880

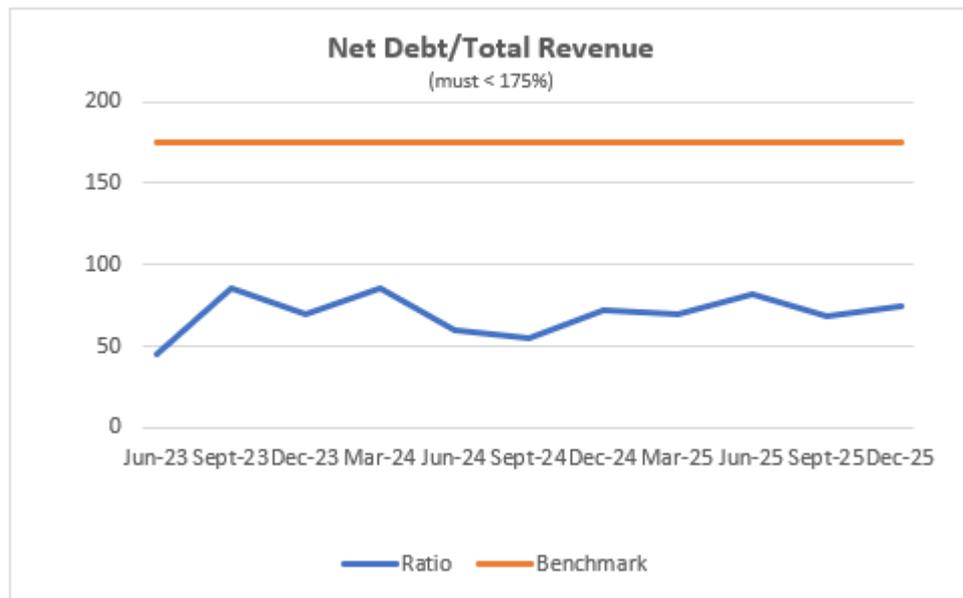
4.4 Internal borrowing has occurred over many years where surplus cash is used to fund these activities before resorting to borrowing externally. In essence Council’s treasury function acts as an internal bank. The interest charged to the activities, becomes income to the Treasury, offsetting the external charge. This means that overall Council only discloses the external borrowing costs in the Comprehensive Revenue and Expenditure Statement.

5. Borrowing Ratios

5.1 Council’s Long-Term Plan 2024-34 (pages 152 and 153) includes two Liquidity Ratio Benchmarks set by the LGFA. Incorporating the figures above, Council’s YTD performance in relation to these benchmarks is as follows (note these ratios are currently included in a more detailed report that is provided to each Risk and Assurance Committee).

5.2 Net Debt/Total Revenue must not exceed 175%:

• Debt	\$54.0m
• Bank	\$10.9m
• Corporate Bonds	\$1.2m
• Notional Net Debt	\$41.9m
• YE Revenue	\$56.0m
Net Debt/Total Revenue	75%

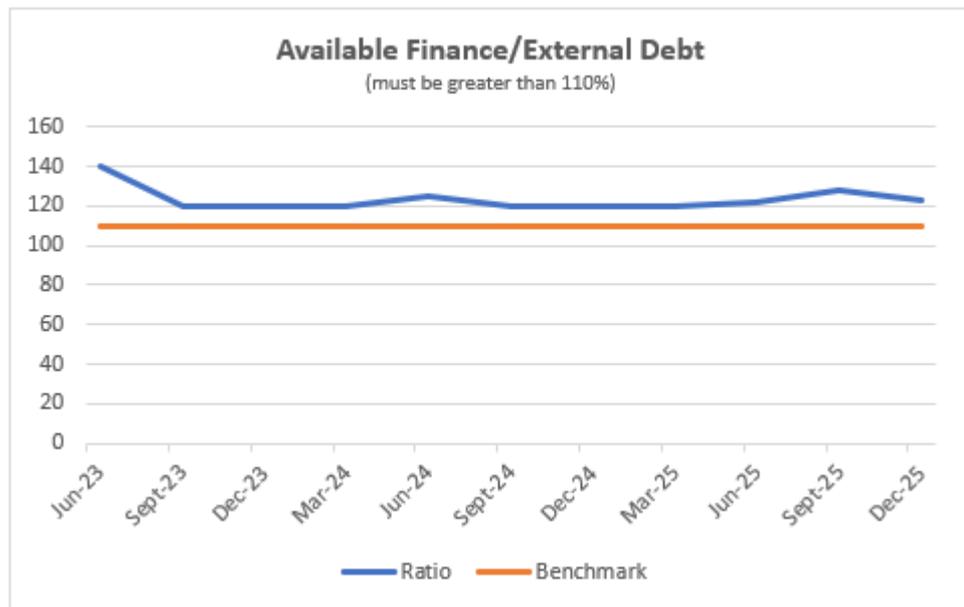


ITEM 11.2

5.3 External debt plus committed facilities plus Liquid Assets (available finance) divided by external debt must be greater than 110%:

- External Debt \$54.0m
- Bank/Deposits \$ 10.9m
- Available Finance \$64.9m

Available Finance divided by External Debt 120%



Note: Council’s 2023/24 Annual Report includes similar trend analyses for the past 5 year-ends (Page 101).

5.4 Sustainability

Sustainability

Balance Budget Ratio 85%

Operating Revenue YTD	\$25.0m
Operating Expenditure YTD	\$29.5m

This a Prudential Benchmark reported under the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2019. Operating Revenue should be equal or more (i.e. over 100%) to meet this benchmark. Operating revenue is described above. Operating expenditure includes depreciation and excludes losses on revaluations, increases in landfill after care provisions and loss on derivatives if applicable.

Net Debt to projected revenue (LGFA covenant) 75%

Total net borrowing	\$42m
Total projected operating revenue	\$56m

This is also a prudential benchmark set in our Treasury Policy and also a LGFA Covenant maximum of 175%. Net debt is defined as external borrowing less cash in the bank.

Net Interest to rates revenue (LGFA covenant) 5.7%

Net Interest YTD	\$ 1.0m
Rates Revenue	\$ 17.6m

This is also a prudential benchmark set in our Treasury Policy. Our set limit is 25% of rates revenue. Net interest is Interest paid less interest received.

Interest to operating revenue (LGFA covenant) 4.0%

Net Interest	\$ 1.0m
Operating revenue	\$25.0m

This is also a prudential benchmark set in our Treasury Policy. Our set limit is 20% of operating revenue.

Liquidity benchmark (LGFA covenant) 123%

External Debt plus cash	\$66.3m
External debt	\$54.0m

This is also a prudential benchmark set in our Treasury Policy. Our set limit is greater than 110%. This benchmark is calculated by dividing external debt plus cash by external debt.

Attachments:

1. Finance Snapshot - January 2026 [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the Finance Snapshot - January 2026 be received.

Whole of Council

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(35,034)	(35,846)	(812)	-2%	(56,285)
Subsidies and Grants	(5,996)	(6,493)	(497)	-8%	(15,145)
Other Revenue	(2,635)	(3,057)	(422)	-14%	(5,055)
Finance Revenue	(216)	(324)	(107)	-33%	(459)
Gains	(47)	0	47	100%	(53)
Rates	(26,139)	(25,971)	167	1%	(35,573)
Total Expense	33,773	35,578	1,805	5%	61,159
Other Expenses	13,771	14,570	799	5%	25,283
Personnel Costs	7,322	7,510	189	3%	12,728
Finance Costs	1,374	1,808	434	24%	3,100
Depreciation	11,293	11,690	397	3%	20,048
Losses	13	0	(13)	-100%	0
Grand Total	(1,261)	(268)	993	371%	4,874

Variations > \$100k: Comment

Commentary provided in the following Group Summaries.

Corporate Services and Support

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(524)	(447)	76	17%	(691)
Other Revenue	(84)	(9)	76	879%	(15)
Finance Revenue	(216)	(324)	(107)	-33%	(459)
Gains	(46)	0	46	100%	(53)
Rates	(8,405)	(8,344)	61	1%	(11,135)
Rate Apportionment	8,229	8,229	(0)	0%	10,972
Total Expense	(346)	(177)	170	-96%	(303)
Other Expenses	1,460	2,055	596	29%	3,525
Personnel Costs	5,398	5,764	366	6%	9,766
Finance Costs	(486)	(213)	273	128%	(365)
Depreciation	589	434	(155)	-36%	744
Overhead Allocation	(7,320)	(8,217)	(897)	-11%	(13,973)
Losses	13	0	(13)	-100%	0
Grand Total	(870)	(624)	246	39%	(994)

Variances > \$100k: Comment

- Finance Revenue is under budget reflecting lower interest rates.
- Other Expenses – under budget, reflecting timing differences in planned expenditure for both information services licence fees and contractor costs
- Personnel Costs – under budget, reflecting open vacancies yet to be filled and budget for some positions being paid directly from other council activities instead of through support overheads, (notably 3 Waters and Regulatory Services), with no impact at a total council level
- Finance Costs – under budget reflecting underspends in the capital programme reducing the requirement for borrowed funds along with more favourable interest rates than planned.
- Depreciation is over budget and it is offset by favourable budget variances across other council activities (historic fleet purchases are still showing against the fleet cost centre)
- Overhead allocation, under budget reflecting the lower than planned operational costs to date as mentioned above which get reallocated across the various council activities below

Community

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(4,675)	(4,938)	(263)	-5%	(9,412)
Subsidies and Grants	(463)	(618)	(155)	-25%	(3,460)
Other Revenue	(416)	(524)	(108)	-21%	(891)
Finance Revenue	0	0	0	0%	0
Gains	(1)	0	1	100%	0
Rate Apportionment	(3,796)	(3,796)	(0)	-0%	(5,061)
Total Expense	4,817	4,904	87	2%	8,442
Other Expenses	1,602	1,859	257	14%	3,240
Personnel Costs	68	72	4	6%	122
Finance Costs	392	410	17	4%	702
Depreciation	1,472	1,375	(98)	-7%	2,358
Overhead Allocation	1,283	1,189	(93)	-8%	2,021
Losses	0	0	0	0%	0
Grand Total	142	(34)	(176)	-520%	(970)

Variations > \$100k: Comment

- Subsidies and Grants is under budget which is principally a timing issue mainly with Better of Funding
- Other Revenue is under budget due to rental income from land and buildings being lower than planned to date. In addition the Swimming for All grant has not been received as a result of the ongoing closure of the Marton Pool.
- Other Expenses is under budget reflecting costs being lower than planned with the closure of Marton Pool

Community Leadership

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(2,128)	(2,143)	(15)	-1%	(2,867)
Other Revenue	(0)	(16)	(16)	-97%	(32)
Rates	(52)	(51)	1	1%	(68)
Rate Apportionment	(2,076)	(2,076)	0	0%	(2,768)
Total Expense	1,470	1,681	211	13%	2,873
Other Expenses	674	714	39	6%	1,228
Depreciation	0	0	0	0%	0
Overhead Allocation	796	967	172	18%	1,645
Grand Total	(658)	(461)	196	42%	6

Variances > \$100k: Comment

Regulatory Services

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(2,332)	(2,575)	(242)	-9%	(3,971)
Other Revenue	(1,113)	(1,356)	(242)	-18%	(2,346)
Rate Apportionment	(1,219)	(1,219)	0	0%	(1,625)
Total Expense	2,115	2,330	215	9%	3,965
Other Expenses	251	390	139	36%	668
Personnel Costs	1,001	960	(41)	-4%	1,627
Depreciation	11	41	31	74%	71
Overhead Allocation	852	939	86	9%	1,598
Grand Total	(217)	(244)	(27)	-11%	(7)

Variances > \$100k: Comment

- Other Revenue is under budget with consent fee revenue being lower than planned to date.
- Other Expenses is under budget reflecting lower volumes favourably impacting both licence fees and contractor costs

Roading and Footpaths

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(13,408)	(13,759)	(351)	-3%	(22,235)
Subsidies and Grants	(5,287)	(5,696)	(408)	-7%	(11,442)
Other Revenue	(82)	(103)	(21)	-21%	(179)
Rates	(8,038)	(7,960)	78	1%	(10,613)
Total Expense	14,906	15,562	656	4%	26,889
Other Expenses	5,517	5,366	(151)	-3%	9,442
Personnel Costs	(0)	0	0	100%	0
Finance Costs	343	326	(17)	-5%	559
Depreciation	6,687	7,013	326	5%	12,027
Overhead Allocation	2,359	2,857	498	17%	4,860
Losses	0	0	0	0%	0
Grand Total	1,498	1,804	306	17%	4,654

Variances > \$100k: Comment

- Subsidies and Grants is under budget which is principally a timing issue caused by the straight-line profiling of the Roothing programme plan for budgeting purposes versus the actual completion of roading works. This is offset by an underspend on roading capex spend to date.
- Other Expenses is over budget reflecting timing differences in planned expenditure.
- Depreciation- under budget due to the revaluation of roading assets being lower than planned which results in a lower level of depreciation
- Overhead allocation, under budget reflecting the lower than planned operational costs to date.

Rubbish and Recycling

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(2,102)	(2,347)	(245)	-10%	(3,299)
Subsidies and Grants	(244)	(178)	66	37%	(240)
Other Revenue	(619)	(954)	(334)	-35%	(1,440)
Rates	(1,089)	(1,066)	24	2%	(1,421)
Rate Apportionment	(149)	(149)	0	0%	(199)
Total Expense	1,772	1,968	195	10%	3,367
Other Expenses	1,254	1,412	158	11%	2,421
Finance Costs	9	1	(7)	-508%	2
Depreciation	51	47	(4)	-8%	81
Overhead Allocation	459	507	49	10%	862
Grand Total	(329)	(379)	(50)	-13%	68

Variances > \$100k: Comment

- Other Revenue is under budget with Waste Transfer revenues being lower than planned to date. This is offset by other expenses being lower than planned reflecting the cost to council for disposal also being lower than planned.

Parks and Reserves

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(1,061)	(1,055)	7	1%	(1,417)
Subsidies and Grants	(2)	(1)	1	39%	(3)
Other Revenue	(70)	(64)	6	10%	(95)
Rate Apportionment	(989)	(989)	(0)	-0%	(1,319)
Total Expense	575	733	158	22%	1,250
Other Expenses	193	248	55	22%	425
Finance Costs	7	5	(1)	-24%	9
Depreciation	17	113	96	85%	194
Overhead Allocation	358	367	9	2%	622
Grand Total	(487)	(322)	165	51%	(167)

Variances > \$100k: Comment

Nil

Water, Sewerage & Stormwater

Activity Report For the Period Ending 31 January 2026	YTD Actuals	YTD Budgets	YTD Variance	YTD Percentage Variance	2025/2026 Annual Plan
	\$000	\$000	\$000		\$000
Total Revenue	(8,805)	(8,583)	222	3%	(12,393)
Other Revenue	(250)	(32)	218	685%	(58)
Finance Revenue	0	0	0	0%	0
Rates	(8,554)	(8,551)	3	0%	(12,336)
Total Expense	8,464	8,577	112	1%	14,676
Other Expenses	2,821	2,527	(294)	-12%	4,333
Personnel Costs	855	715	(140)	-20%	1,213
Finance Costs	1,109	1,278	169	13%	2,192
Depreciation	2,466	2,667	201	8%	4,573
Overhead Allocation	1,213	1,390	177	13%	2,364
Grand Total	(341)	(7)	334	5096%	2,283

Variances > \$100k: Comment

- Other Revenue is over budget as rent has been received on the land bought for Marton to Bulls waste water project. Rent received covers the previous year and year to date.
- Other Expenses is over budget reflecting higher than budgeted expenditure on repairs to the rural water schemes and higher electricity rates.
- Personnel Cost is over budget due to overtime and allowances paid, exceeding the savings from current vacancies. This is largely off set by savings in Corporate Services and Support for other water support overhead.
- Finance Costs – under budget reflecting underspends in the capital programme reducing the requirement for borrowed funds along with more favourable interest rates than planned
- Depreciation is under budget due to the revaluation of water assets being lower than planned which results in a lower level of depreciation
- Overhead allocation, under budget reflecting the lower than planned operational costs to date as mentioned above which get reallocated across the various council activities below

Rangitikei District Council*
Capital Activity
For Period ending 31 January 2026

Account	2025/26 YTD Actuals January	2025/26 YTD Budgets January	YTD Percentage Budget Spent January	2025/2026 Annual Plan
Corporate Services and Support	830,610	1,244,548	36.74%	2,260,739
Information Services	392,835	1,114,176	20.57%	1,910,000
Community	1,253,080	3,374,199	11.00%	11,393,574
Domains	114,378	585,140	11.07%	1,032,809
4410170630. Taihape Grandstand	34,235	399,016	4.94%	693,579
Halls	593,432	1,804,331	8.34%	7,113,396
4090174504. Taihape Town Hall and Library Redevelopment	215,809	999,766	5.40%	3,998,584
4090174505. Marton Building Design & Construction	355,693	750,907	11.83%	3,005,442
Swim Centres	418,971	770,258	14.57%	2,875,989
4000170618. Swim Centres - New Roof	372,555	675,000	13.80%	2,700,000
Roading and Footpaths	2,736,931	4,956,369	28.81%	9,498,699
Non-Subsidised Roading	9,249	430,721	1.01%	913,696
Subsidised Roading	2,727,682	4,525,648	31.77%	8,585,003
70100780. Unsealed Road Metaling & Rehabilitation (211)	301,438	314,937	53.28%	565,728
70100781. Sealed Road Pavement Rehabilitation (214)	908,762	1,098,771	48.34%	1,879,939
70100782. Drainage Renewals (213)	462,647	534,633	52.67%	878,468
70100783. Structures Components Replacements (215)	140,278	419,273	18.10%	775,009
70100787. Sealed Road Surfacing (212)	719,814	1,673,057	23.70%	3,037,652
Water, Sewerage & Stormwater	2,680,269	10,731,459	13.52%	19,826,918
Stormwater	161,881	1,717,007	4.77%	3,394,242
6050177203. Bredins Line New Outfall	7,481	351,761	1.24%	602,850
6050177207. Hunterville Network Upgrade	0	298,081	0.00%	511,000
6050177208. Marton Skerman St Upgrade	61,833	536,550	6.72%	919,800
Waste Water - Sewerage	828,655	3,229,155	13.05%	6,349,462
6070176204. Wastewater Reticulation	116,492	535,020	9.00%	1,293,870
6070176206. Marton to Bulls Centralisation Project	469,582	837,866	32.93%	1,425,964
6070177108. Taihape Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent	21,366	521,147	2.44%	874,237
6070177111. Ratana Complete Upgrade	8,295	674,120	0.73%	1,130,675
Water - District	1,659,814	5,463,715	17.45%	9,512,301
6060174503. Marton Water Strategy	651,966	4,342,538	8.77%	7,430,203
6060176401. Water Supply Renewals	723,191	445,360	90.72%	797,160
Grand Total	7,540,592	20,450,223	17.44%	43,233,326

Business Unit Totals
Sub area Totals within Business Units

Budget is as per Annual Plan, Carryforward budgets from last year (and approved by council in September 2025) are now reflected in full year budget. To date, only 17.4% of the annual planned capital program has been spent with Water Sewerage and Stormwater (namely the Marton Water Strategy) and the Roading spending to date continuing to be the main areas where spend is significantly lower than planned year to date.

11.3 Statement of Service Provision: July 2025 - December 2025 (6 month)**Author:** Katrina Gray, Group Manager - Strategy, Community and Democracy**Authoriser:** Carol Gordon, Chief Executive**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the 6 month Statement of Service Provision (SSP) report. This reporting period is from 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025.

2. Context

- 2.1 The SSP report measures the level of service achieved against the agreed performance targets for each activity grouping as set in the Long Term Plan 2024-34.
- 2.2 The performance targets are assessed using the following categories; achieved, on track to achieve, not on track to achieve, not achieved, and not measured.
- 2.3 A summary of the 6 month results are as follows:
- 26 of the performance targets were achieved
 - 12 of the performance targets are on track to be achieved
 - 9 of the performance targets are not on track to be achieved
 - 8 of the performance targets were not achieved
 - 13 of the performance targets were not measured
- 2.4 A number of the performance measures that have not been measured will be measured throughout the financial year, as some of these targets are only reported on once per year. Other performance measures, such as stormwater discharge compliance are mandatory measures that Council is required to report on. However, Council does not have any stormwater consents so these measures cannot be measured.

3. Highlights

- 3.1 Road condition smooth travel exposure sits above target at 94% (target of 90%).
- 3.2 Water supply and wastewater fault response times continue to meet targets.
- 3.3 Programmes run at community hubs continue to exceed the target and be well attended.

4. Areas for improvement

- 4.1 The capital spend is sitting at 13.5%, due to delays largely outside of Council control.
- 4.2 Road maintenance measures are below target due to increased costs.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report. This report only captures Council's progress towards meeting the performance targets for the current financial year.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 Trust and confidence is tarnished.

6.1.1 There is a risk that the community's trust and confidence in Council is tarnished if Council does not achieve the targets for the levels of service set in the Long Term Plan. This risk is mitigated by being transparent where a target is not being met, or is unlikely to be met, and providing an explanation on why the target is not being met.

7. Strategic Alignment

7.1 This report tracks how Council is meeting the performance targets which have been set for the key services that Council delivers and which align with Council's strategic priorities.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 Satisfaction with the Māori responsiveness framework is a performance measure which is assessed yearly through a survey distributed to each member of Te Rōpū Ahi Kā.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 There are no statutory implications associated with these 6 month results. The end of year results will be reported on in the Annual Report 2025/26 as required by the Local Government Act 2002.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 The 6 month results are for information purposes only.

Attachments:

1. **SSP - July - December 2025** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report Statement of Service Provision: July 2025 - December 2025 (6 month)

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Community Leadership

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Make decisions that are robust, fair, timely, legally compliant and address critical issues, and that are communicated to the community</i>					
On-time completion of, or substantially undertaken annual plan actions	●	90% Annual Plan Actions completed	34%	62%	Some projects will begin later this financial year, which has impacted results to date. Results are expected to improve as these projects commence.
Completion of capital programme	●	85% of the planned capital programme	13.5%	38.90%	Delays outside RDC control with long term strategic projects and timing of install of other projects in the summer gives a non-representative delivery percentage of what is in place but will improve and be more representational over Q3 and Q4.
Māori responsiveness framework:	Governance and relationships	80% or more overall satisfaction	Not yet Measured	75%	This performance measure will be reported at the end of the financial year.
Satisfaction ratings from each member of	Culture and identity		Not yet Measured	50%	
Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa about the effectiveness of each framework outcome area.	Prosperity and well-being		Not yet Measured	25%	
	Resources and infrastructure		Not yet Measured	50%	
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a high customer experience that satisfies the needs of the community</i>					
Customer views of their experience (both the customer service and service provided) with Council.	●	Number of Responses: 4,000 or above	1,759 responses received	3,462 responses	The number of responses are running just below target for the 6 month mark. A focus will be placed on encouraging customers to share their experience.
Customer views of their experience (both the customer service and service provided) with Council.	●	Customer Satisfaction Index: Improvement on previous year	90%	90%	Customer feedback highlights friendly, helpful staff and high-quality service that create a welcoming environment. Patrons value the range of activities and facilities, which support a positive and inclusive community space. Some concerns were noted around noise levels.

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Roading

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a sustainable roading network that is maintained in accordance with each road's significance for local communications and the local economy, taking into account the One Roding Network Classification and funding subsidies</i>					
*Road condition The average quality of ride on a sealed local road network measured by smooth travel exposure	●	90% or more	94%	93%	This is an annual measure, results are generated in July.
*Road maintenance The percentage of the sealed road network that is resurfaced	●	6% or more	0%	4%	The annual target of 6% is unable to be achieved due to increased costs. The current programme covers 4.7% of the network. The work is programmed to be delivered between January and April 2026, and is on track.
The volume of metal placed on the unsealed road network during the year	●	12,000m ³ or more	3,870 m ³	9,113m ³	The comment above also applies to this measure.
*Footpaths The percentage of footpaths within the District that fall within the level of service or service standard for the condition of footpaths that is set out in the Council's relevant document e.g. Annual Plan, Asset Management Plan.	●	90% of footpaths make up category 1 or 2 ¹	94% (as last recorded)	94% Grade 1 and 2 condition rating	The footpath inspection underpinning this metric is conducted every three years, with the next inspection scheduled for the 2026/27 financial year. The result will be updated once the latest data becomes available.

¹ 1. Excellent, 2. Good, 3. Fair, 4. Poor, 5. Very Poor

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Roading

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved
 ● On track to achieve
 ● Not on track to achieve
 ● Not achieved
 ● Not measured

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
*Road safety The change from the previous financial year in the number of fatalities and serious injury crashes on the local road network expressed as a number	●	A reduction of 1 fatal crash per year until zero	0 fatal crashes	0 fatal crashes	There have been no fatalities since 2022/23.
	●	One less serious injury crash than the previous year until there is 10 or less serious injury crashes on the Council roading network	4 serious injury crashes	8 serious injury crashes	2 serious injury crashes reported for the same period in 2025/26. RDC and the Contractors staff proactively manage safety related maintenance issues to minimise risk to road users.

Council's intended level of service is to: Be responsive to community expectations over the roading network and requests for service

* Response to service requests² The percentage of customer service requests relating to roads and footpaths to which the territorial authority responds within the time frame specified in the Long Term Plan. Results will be presented as the median.	After-hours callouts	95% responded to in 12 hours	50%	68%	Some settling of processes under the new road maintenance contract has contributed to delayed updates in Magiq. This does not reflect delays in responding to urgent after-hours RFSs.
	Working hours callouts	95% responded to in 6 hours	43%	71%	Some delays have occurred due to the settling of processes under the new road maintenance contract.
	Resolution	85% of callouts resolved (completed) within one month of the request	72%	59%	Issues are assessed and prioritised accordingly. This means that in some cases repairs will be made outside of the one month timeframe.
	Resolution Potholes	Potholes 85% of all callouts resolved (completed) within one month of the request	86%	80%	Issues are assessed and prioritised accordingly. This means that in some cases repairs will be made outside of the 1 month timeframe.

² Council measures resolution as well as initial attendance in response to such requests.

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Water Supply

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a safe and compliant supply of drinking water</i>					
*Safety of drinking water The extent to which the Council's drinking water supply complies with:	Water supplied is compliant with the DWQA Rules in the Distribution System (<i>Bacteria compliance</i>)	No Incidents of non-compliance with bacteria compliance criteria for each water supply	Compliant (4/6)	Compliant (0/6)	Non-compliance was identified for Marton in September and October, and for Bulls in November, due to missed sampling.
	Water supplied is compliant with the DWQA Rules in the Treatment System (<i>Protozoal compliance</i>)	No Incidents of non-compliance with protozoa compliance criteria for each water supply	Compliant (0/6)	Compliant (0/6)	No water supply is compliant with protozoal rules due to gaps in monitoring data and equipment performance (e.g. UV and turbidity recording). These issues affected reporting rather than water safety.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide reliable and efficient urban water supplies</i>					
*Maintenance of the reticulation network The percentage of real water loss from Council's networked urban reticulation system		Less than 40%	43%	49%	This period's result reflects ongoing challenges associated with ageing infrastructure and leak detection. Work is continuing to improve network condition, monitoring accuracy, and the prioritisation of repairs to reduce water loss over time.
*Demand Management The average consumption of drinking water per day per resident within the District		600 litres per resident per day	803 litres	469 litres	Average daily water consumption appears higher this period due to changes in calculation methodology, with figures now reflecting total system water supplied rather than household use alone. This result reflects improved data coverage rather than an increase in resident demand.

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Water Supply

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Be responsive to reported faults and complaints*</i>					
<p>*Fault response time Where the Council attends a call out in response to a fault or unplanned interruption to its networked reticulation system, the following median times are measured.</p>	Attendance for urgent call outs from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site	0.5 hours	0.13 hours	0.14 hours	Target met.
	Resolution of urgent call outs from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault of interruption	24 hours	3.63 hours	1.69 hours	Target met.
	Attendance for non-urgent call outs from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site	24 hours	1.61 hours	0.75 hours	Target met.
	Resolution of non-urgent call outs from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault of interruption	96 hours	3.92 hours	2.68 hours	Target met.

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Water Supply

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
*Customer satisfaction The total number of complaints (<i>expressed per 1000 connections to the reticulated networks</i>) received by the Council ¹					
	●	No more than 20 complaints per 1000 connections	13.54	71.64	Target met.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Maintain compliant, reliable and efficient rural water supplies</i>					
Where the Council attends a call out in response to a fault or unplanned interruption to its water supply for rural water schemes, the following median times are measured:	Attendance time: from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site	48 hours	0.84 hours	0.5 hours	Target met.
	Resolution time: from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault of interruption	96 hours	12.09 hours	1.84 hours	Target met.

¹ a. drinking water clarity, b. drinking water taste, c. drinking water odour, d. drinking water pressure or flow, e. continuity of supply, and f. The Council's response to any of these issues

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Wastewater and Sewage Disposal

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved
 ● On track to achieve
 ● Not on track to achieve
 ● Not achieved
 ● Not measured

PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a reliable, reticulated disposal system that does not cause harm or create pollution within existing urban areas</i>					
*Discharge compliance Compliance with the Council's resource consents for discharge from its sewerage system measured by the number of a) abatement notices b) infringement notices c) enforcement orders, and d) convictions	● No abatement notices	0	0	2	No abatement notices received during the reporting period.
	● No infringement notices	5	5	10	Two notices for Hunterville (1285, 1286). One notice for Bulls (1288). Two notices for Taihape (1277, 1279).
	● No enforcement orders	0	0	0	No enforcement orders have been received during the reporting period.
	● No convictions	0	0	0	No convictions have been received during the reporting period.
*System and adequacy The number of dry weather sewerage overflows from the Council's sewerage system, expressed per 1000 sewerage connections to that sewerage system	● Fewer overflows than 3 per 1000 connections		0.23/1000	0.46/1000	A low number of complaints have been received so far this financial year.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Be responsive to reported faults and complaints</i>					
* Fault response time Where the Council attends to sewerage overflows resulting from a blockage or other fault in the Council's sewerage system, the following median times are measured: a) attendance time: from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site, and b) resolution time: from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel confirm resolution of the fault or interruption	● Attendance urgent 0.5 hours		0.17	0.66 hours	Target achieved.
	● Attendance non-urgent 24 hours		1.15	0.83 hours	Target achieved.
	● Resolution urgent 24 hours		3.42	1.7 hours	Target achieved.
	● Resolution non-urgent 96 hours		2.15	2.22 hours	Target achieved.

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Wastewater and Sewage Disposal

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<p>*Customer satisfaction</p> <p>The total number of complaints received by the Council about any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) sewage odour b) sewerage system faults c) sewerage system blockages, and d) the Council's response to issues with its sewerage system <p>Expressed per 1000 connections to the Council's sewerage system.</p>	●	<p>Fewer requests than 6 per 1000 connections</p>	<p>2.26/1000</p>	<p>8.67/1000</p>	<p>A low number of complaints have been received so far this financial year.</p>

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Stormwater Drainage

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a reliable collection and disposal system to each property during normal rainfall</i>					
*Discharge compliance Compliance with the Council's resource consents for discharge from its stormwater system measured by the number of: a. abatement notices b. infringement notices c. enforcement orders, and d. convictions Received by the Council in relation to those resource consents.	●	No abatement notices	Not Measured	Not Measured	Discharge compliance is a mandatory measure set by the Department of Internal Affairs therefore must be reported on. However, as Council has no stormwater consents this target cannot be measured.
	●	No infringement notices	Not Measured	Not Measured	
	●	No enforcement orders	Not Measured	Not Measured	
	●	No convictions	Not Measured	Not Measured	
*System adequacy The number of flooding events ¹ that occurred in the District. For each flooding event, the number of habitable floors affected (expressed per 1000 properties connected to the Council's stormwater system). Note: This is a District-wide assessment	●	Fewer requests than 5 per 1000 connected properties	Not measured	Not measured	No flooding events occurred during this period.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Be responsive to reported faults and complaints</i>					
*Customer satisfaction The number of complaints received by the Council about the performance of its stormwater system, expressed per 1000 properties connected to the Council's stormwater system.	●	Fewer requests than 5 per 1000 connected properties	2.00/1000	6.48/1000	Customer complaints remain low so far this reporting period.
*Response time The median response time to attend a flooding event, measured from the time that the Council receives notification to the time that service personnel reach the site.	●	Two hours or less	Not measured	Not measured	No flooding events.

¹ The rules for the mandatory measures define a 'flooding event' as an overflow from a territorial authority's stormwater system that enters a habitable floor
*Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Parks and Reserves

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Compliance with relevant standards</i>					
Playground compliance with NZ Standards	●	Maintain accreditation	100% compliance	100% compliance	All playgrounds are compliant.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide parks and sport fields that are fit for purpose</i>					
Customer ratings of parks and sports fields	●	90% Happy or Somewhat Happy	67%	100%	Maintenance of the region's parks and sports fields is delivered to a high standard, with seasonal weather and unforeseen circumstances occasionally impacting operations.

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Community

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Compliance with relevant standards</i>					
All swimming pools have poolsafe accreditation	●	Maintain accreditation	Not yet measured	Taihape Swim Centre achieved Pool Safe Accreditation. Marton Swim Centre on hold.	Accreditation re-evaluation scheduled for May 2026. Marton Swim Centre accreditation has been put on hold until the facility re-opens.
Council complies with criteria in rental warrant of fitness programme for community housing	●	All units achieve at least 95% compliance	All units measured (72) achieved 99.70%	All units measured (70) achieved 98.8%	Ongoing work to improve community housing flats has continued. All flats measured are compliant with Healthy Homes Standards, and this momentum for ongoing improvements will continue into 2026.
New public toilet buildings are well designed, safe and visible and Compliance with SNZ4241:1999 and CPTED (safer design guidelines) for new or refurbished toilets)	●	100 % compliance	Not measured	Not measured	No new or refurbished toilet buildings.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Library services are welcoming and provide a space for social interaction and learning</i>					
Customer rating of library facilities	●	Customer 90% Satisfaction Index (provided via the HappyOrNot system): 90% accreditation	90% Achieved Overall	90% overall. This consists of: 89% of 373 responses at Te Matapihi 93% of 1,005 responses at Taihape 85% of 1,778 responses at Marton Community Hub	90% overall This consists of: 91% Taihape 92% Te Matapihi 87% Marton Community Hub/libraries

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Community

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
The number of library outreach activities and events delivered	●	5 programmes per month per Community Hub site	Marton Community Hub: 15 Programmes per month Te Matapihi: 8 programmes per month Taihape: 6 programmes per month School Holiday Programmes - Marton: 20 Te Matapihi: 20 Taihape: 15	Marton Community Hub: 20 Programmes per month Te Matapihi-Bulls Community Hub: 12 Programmes per month Taihape Community Hub: 10 Programmes per month School Holiday Programmes: Marton: 65 Te Matapihi: 50 Taihape: 2	Community Hubs and Libraries, in partnership with local schools, deliver ongoing weekly outreach programmes focused on literacy and educational engagement.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Ensure competency in discharging Civil Defence responsibilities</i>					
Timing of self-assessment when the Emergency Operations Centre is activated and of continued civil defence training exercises	●	Self -assessment undertaken and responded to within four months of Emergency Operations Centre Activation	Not measured	Not Measured	No EOC activation during this period. Small Incident Management Team (ITM) created for Duddings Lake event.
a) Self-assessment of responsiveness and recovery following activation of the Emergency Operations Centre	●	At least one exercise undertaken each year	Achieved	Achieved	IMT Exercise held in November 2025
b) Number of civil defence exercises undertaken					

** Mandatory*

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Rubbish and Recycling

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Make recycling facilities available at waste transfer stations for glass, paper, metal, plastics, textiles and green waste, special occasions for electronics (e-waste). Council intends to continue the operation (under contract) of existing urban waste transfer stations – Rātana, Bulls, Marton, Hunterville, Mangaweka, and Taihape.</i>					
Waste to landfill (tonnage)	●	Less than 5,500 tonnes to landfill	2406.34	5,624 tonnes	Taihape, Bulls, and Marton have had weighbridges installed and extensive community education has recently taken place.
Recycling available at Waste Transfer Stations throughout the District.	●	Bulls, Marton, Taihape, Hunterville, Rātana, Mangaweka all provide facilities for recycling of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass • Metal • Paper • Plastics (1-5) • cans/tins 	Outcomes met	Outcome met	All six waste transfer stations in the district offer a free drop-off service.
Percent of waste diverted from the landfill (includes paper, plastics, metals, glass, tyres, e-waste, Greenwaste)	●	Increased percent diverted from the previous year	23.3%	20.7%	Education is ongoing with the aim of increasing recycling.

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Regulatory Services

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured					
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide a legally compliant service</i>					
Timeliness of processing building consents and resource consents	Building consents	100% processed within statutory timeframes	99.17%	99.57%	One building consent took longer to process than the statutory timeframe due to workload pressure.
	Resource consents	100% processed within statutory timeframes	Land use consents 100% Subdivision consents 100%	Land use consents 100% Subdivision consents 100%	Compliance met. All consents processed within Statutory timeframe, including those extended under s37 of the RMA.
<i>Council's intended level of service is to: Provide regulatory compliance officers to address enforcement call outs</i>					
Animal Control –Timeliness of response (i.e. the request for service has been acknowledged) and completion (i.e. the request for service has been signed off by officers.) Results will be presented as the median. Priority 1 = Any dog attack, found dog, rushing dog, wandering stock. Priority 2 = animal welfare concern, barking dog, property inspection, general enquiry, lost animal, microchip dog, multi-dog inspection, roaming dog, animal control bylaw matter.	Response to Priority 1 call outs	90% responded within 0.5 hours	78%	94%	There is an issue in the data which officers are investigating.
	Completion of Priority 1 call outs	90% completed within 20 working days	94%	95%	Compliance met.
	Response to Priority 2 call outs	90% responded within 24 hours	82%	86%	There is an issue in the data which officers are investigating.
	Completion of Priority 2 call outs	90% completed within 20 working days	92%	92%	Compliance met.

* Mandatory

Statement of Service Report (6 Month (Jul-Dec) 2025-2026)

Regulatory Services

OUR LEVEL OF SERVICE AND HOW WE MEASURE PROGRESS

● Achieved ● On track to achieve ● Not on track to achieve ● Not achieved ● Not measured						
PERFORMANCE MEASURE	OUTCOME	2025/26 TARGET	DECEMBER 2025/26 RESULT	2024/25 RESULT	NARRATIVE	
Environmental health Timeliness of response (i.e the site has been attended) and completion (i.e the Request for Service has been signed off by officers). Results will be presented as the median.	Response to Noise Control call outs	●	90% responded to in 1.5 hours	92%	93%	Target met.
	Completion of Noise Control call outs	●	90% completed in 2 hours	95%	71%	Target met.
	Response to Food Premises call outs	●	Food premises – 90% responded to in 24 hours	100%	20%	Compliance met.
	Completion of Food Premises call outs	●	90% completed in 72 hours	100%	40%	Compliance met.

* Mandatory

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

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

2. Attachments

1. TCB - 19 Nov 25 (under separate cover)
2. RCB - 25 Nov 25 (under separate cover)
3. ERWS - 02 Dec 25 (under separate cover)
4. HRWS - 08 Dec 25 (under separate cover)
5. HRWS - 09 Feb 26 (under separate cover)
6. HCC - 09 Feb 26 (under separate cover)
7. MCC - 18 Feb 26 (under separate cover)
8. BCC - 18 Feb 26 (under separate cover)
9. TCC - 19 Feb 26 (under separate cover)

Recommendation

That the following minutes are received:

- Taihape Community Board Meeting – 19 November 25
- Ratana Community Board Meeting – 25 November 25
- Erehon Rural Water Scheme Meeting – 02 December 25
- Hunterville Rural Water Scheme Meeting – 08 December 25
- Hunterville Rural Water Scheme Meeting – 09 February 26
- Hunterville Community Committee Meeting – 09 February 26
- Marton Community Committee Meeting – 18 February 26
- Bulls Community Committee Meeting – 18 February 26
- Turakina Community Committee Meeting – 19 February 26

13 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 - 12 February 2026
2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Community Hall on Crown Land
4. Marton Water Strategy

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
13.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting – 12 February 2026	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 12 February meeting.	S48(1)(a)
13.2 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings	To consider actions from previous public excluded meetings. s7(2)(a) - Privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.3 - Community Hall on Crown Land	To enable sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
13.4 - Marton Water Strategy	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)

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

14 Open Meeting