

# ORDER PAPER

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, 11 June 2026  
**Time:** 10.00am  
**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street  
Marton

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**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

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 917), or via email

[kezia.spence@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:kezia.spence@rangitikei.govt.nz)

<p><b>Contact:</b></p>	<p>0800 422 522      <a href="mailto:info@rangitikei.govt.nz">info@rangitikei.govt.nz</a>      <a href="http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz">www.rangitikei.govt.nz</a></p> <p>(06) 327 0099</p>						
<p><b>Locations:</b></p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 757 655 904"> <p><u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton</p> </td> <td data-bbox="655 757 1134 904"></td> <td data-bbox="1134 757 1492 943"> <p><u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="336 981 655 1128"></td> <td data-bbox="655 981 1134 1128"> <p><u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1134 981 1492 1128"></td> </tr> </table>	<p><u>Marton</u> Head Office 46 High Street Marton</p>		<p><u>Bulls</u> Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls</p>		<p><u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape</p>	
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	<p><u>Taihape</u> Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape</p>						
<p><b>Postal Address:</b></p>	<p>Private Bag 1102, Marton 4741</p>						
<p><b>Fax:</b></p>	<p>(06) 327 6970</p>						

**Notice is hereby given that an Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitīkei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 11 June 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 21 May 2026 are attached.

#### Attachments

1. Ordinary Council Meeting - 21 May 2026

#### Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 May 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



## **UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Date:** Thursday, 21 May 2026  
**Time:** 1.00pm  
**Venue:** Council Chamber  
 Rangitikei District Council  
 46 High Street  
 Marton

**Present**

- HWTM Andy Watson
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Cr Jeff Wong
- Cr Fi Dalgety
- Cr Paul Sharland
- Cr Alan Buckendahl
- Cr Diana Baird
- Cr John Hainsworth
- Cr Sandra Field
- Cr Graeme O'Fee

**In attendance**

- Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
- Mr Arno Benadie, Deputy Chief Executive
- Ms Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Corporate Services
- Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy
- Mr Johan Cullis, Group Manager - Regulatory and Emergency Management
- Ms Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager
- Mr Darryn Black, Roding Transport Manager
- Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor
- Ms Brya Dixon, Marton Primary School Principal

**Order of Business**

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    7.2 **Deliberation on submissions and adoption of the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27** ..... 6

**ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1**

Unconfirmed



that the project be reconsidered prior to adoption of the Annual Plan. It was noted that the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is separate from the civic building concept.

Mrs Gordon noted that the discussion on the build would include urgent maintenance considerations, so councillors fully understand the implications of potential decisions.

#### Erewhon Rural Water Scheme

Councillors asked about the risk exposure to Council. The loan would be scheme specific to members and officers advised that there is urgent work required on the scheme. It was highlighted that scheme members are generally unable to withdraw from the scheme, property owners remain responsible for payment regardless of water usage unless the property is sold and the scheme is vital for the members of the scheme.

#### Governance, Community and Communication

##### *MOU Partners*

Councillors asked whether inflationary adjustments for CPI had been included. Officers advised that the budget as a whole had been adjusted for inflation. Councillors discussed the bulls and calves on private property and the desire for the discussion to occur as part of a wider review of the Memorandum of Understanding..

##### Property

##### *Taihape Grandstand and Public Toilets*

Councillors discussed the public toilet situation at Taihape Memorial Park and noted that the playground plans included the demolition of these.

##### *Omatane Hall*

Councillors noted that there is other funding available for this work to be completed and that they recently received funding from the JBS Dudding Trust.

##### *Marton School Playground*

Councillors noted that there is significant pressure on Council budgets.

A number of amendments to the response to submitters were made, with additional information to be provided.

The meeting adjourned at 2.58pm and returned at 3.15pm.

#### **Resolved minute number 26/RDC/086**

That the report Deliberations Report for the Annual Plan 2026/27, amended Revenue and Finance Policy and Draft Rates Remission Policy be received.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr P Sharland. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 26/RDC/087**

That Council receives all submissions made to the "Where's the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co @ Rangitikei", amended Revenue and Finance Policy and Draft Rates Remissions Policy consultation, including the late submission received prior to this report being published.

Cr S Field/Cr P Sharland. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 26/RDC/088**

That Council acknowledges all submissions made to the “Where’s the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co @ Rangitikei”, amended Revenue and Finance Policy and Draft Rates Remissions Policy consultation, and thanks all submitters for their participation.

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/089**

That based on feedback from submitters, Council requests further information from officers be workshopped with councillors regarding the Marton Civic building project, with the potential that this project be reconsidered prior to the Annual Plan being adopted.

HWTM/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/090**

That Council accepts the Officer analysis made in the Officer Analysis of Submissions with amendment to be used as Council’s response to submitters.

HWTM/Cr P Sharland. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/091**

That Council does approve the 2026/27 Annual Plan capital budget be amended to allow Erewhon Rural Water Scheme’s capital works programme to increase to \$5 million, noting it will be debt funded and repayment by the scheme members.

HWTM/Cr J Wong. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/092**

That Council adjusts the annual payment for the MoU partnership with the Bulls & District Community Trust and the Taihape Community Development Trust by inflation each year.

HWTM/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/093**

That Council does increase the MoU partnership payment to the Bulls & District Community Trust by \$2,000 (GST exclusive) for the 2026/27 financial year, and that this will be included in the budget each year going forward, for the maintenance and repair of the bull, cow and calf statues located on private property in Bulls. If approved, funding is to be provided from additional operational budget that will be funded through the General Rate.

Cr P Sharland/Cr G O'Fee. Lost.

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/094**

That Council commits up to \$256,000 as part of the Long Term Plan 2027-37 for public toilets for Taihape Memorial park.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/095**

That Council does not allocate funding to the Omatane Domain Board for heating and/or plumbing and drainage works at the Omatane Hall to be undertaken in the 2025/26 financial year.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/096**

That Council does not provide a grant towards the upgrade of the Marton School playground.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

**7.2 Deliberation on submissions and adoption of the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27**

Officers noted the amendments to fees and charges for Te Matapihi meeting spaces.

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/097**

That the report Deliberation on submissions and adoption of the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/098**

That Council receives all submissions made to the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 as part of Where's the Annual Plan 2026/27 & Co @ Rangitikei.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr P Sharland. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/099**

That Council accepts the Officer analysis made in the Officer Analysis of Submissions for the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27 without amendment to be used as Council's response to submitters

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr D Wilson. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/100**

That Council adopt the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2026/27, and that Council gives the Chief Executive authority to make minor editorial changes.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

**Resolved minute number 26/RDC/101**

That Council thank staff for the work as part of the Annual Plan and Fees & Charges.

Cr J Wong/Cr P Sharland. Carried

**The meeting closed at 3.29pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 June 2026.**

.....  
**Chairperson**

## 7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

### 7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

#### 1. Reason for Report

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

#### 2. Decision Making Process

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

#### Attachments:

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

#### Recommendation

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

**Current Follow-up Actions**

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	The cost of consultation is largely staff time, with costs also associated with printing of consultation material.	Status
1	09-Apr-26	Cost of taking the Annual Plan to consultation. Provide a dollar amount for the staff costs.	Katrina / Leanne	The cost of consultation is largely staff time, with costs also associated with printing of consultation material. This cost is estimated at approximately \$50k worth of staff time.	Complete

## 8 Mayor's Report

### 8.1 Mayor's Report - June 2026

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

Good afternoon

#### **NOTES ON RURAL & PROVINCIAL SECTOR MEETING – WELLINGTON 14-15 MAY 2026**

##### **DAY 1**

#### **1. The meeting was opened by Chairs Nigel Bowen (Provincial Sector Representative) and Ben Bell (Rural Sector Representative) as joint-Chairs**

- The immediate discussion was with the Mayors giving an “Around the Regions” view on the Local Government Review.
- Common themes were –
  - i) Councils are starting to talk with their communities around possible amalgamation options.
  - ii) The timeframe of 9 August will not allow genuine consultation i.e. the process is too rushed. There was a degree of anger regarding this.
  - iii) The majority of councils did not want to wait for the Backstop option where Government will decide.
  - iv) Some councils, particularly Manawatu, pledged to fight this, noting that the C4LD (Campaign for Local Democracy) was successful.
  - v) There is thought that for some councils there will be a split in the community, e.g. fragmentation of the district. This is possibly real for us.
  - vi) It should be noted that metro councils (which were not there) are generally supporting this amalgamation.
  - vii) Some of the larger provincial centres such as Whanganui see the potential benefits of amalgamation (noting that they will be destined to survive).

#### **2. Session 2 – Fuel Crisis**

Julian Hughes & Haley Mortimer from Z Energy.

Key messages -

- The supply chain is holding.
- Storage remains stable.
- The initial demand spike in May happened but now the demand has returned to normal i.e. no observable drop in demand now.
- Price of diesel has doubled since the start of the Ukraine War.
- Price at the pumps is based on replacement cost to the industry.
- Fuel theft is an issue and a safety risk.
- What we have is a diesel crisis. Diesel and jet fuel comes out of the Middle East. Petrol can be refined from other sources.
- This is the largest energy shock the world has ever seen.
- Prices will stay high until after Christmas even if the Strait opens tomorrow.
- Some fuel still flows out of the Strait because of the availability of pipelines.

#### **3. Session 3 – Panel Discussion: Fuel Impact on Supply Chain and Business**

Philippa Fourie – Fonterra

James Howard – Transit Group

Bridget Service - Foodstuffs

- This section was effectively an operational update on industry.
- Transit is a family owned bus company completely commercial non-subsidised. Fares have increased by about 20% with no service dropped. Monthly charges for diesel have increased by 125%. They have a small percentage of their fleet as electric buses.
- Fonterra have 500 tankers transporting 17b litres of milk a year. Cows continue to produce milk i.e. you can't reduce the service. Fonterra made the comment that hydrogen trucks are 2-2.5% more expensive and have a huge capital cost investment. They are currently licensing some electric tankers.
- Foodstuffs see themselves as an essential service for all of their product. They consume 400,000 litres of diesel per month and noted also that some of their stores are being upgraded with Starlink to increase civil defence capacity.

#### 4. Session 4 – Deep Dive into Simplifying Local Government

Hemi Smiler and Paul James - DIA

In a number of these sessions I will use “quotation marks” to indicate direct comments and *italicised font is my personal comment to those quotations.*

- “Some councils want to move to amalgamation now”.
- “Some councils want to take time”.
- There are two timelines –
  - a) Head Start – 3 month proposals then 2028 activated. Proposals due 9 August.
  - b) Backstop – for those not in Head Start programme.
- DIA is working on a template to help provide detail for Head Start applications to provide clarity on criteria.
- Response to a question from Mayor Toby as to what is off the table. Answer - “a shared service model is off the table”.
- “Head Start is focused on amalgamating councils into unitary authorities”.
- “Regions are different”.
- “Councils should quantify costs” (how much less could councils spend if councils amalgamated, i.e. the process is focused on cost savings).
- Question from Mayor Moko Far North – What happens to councils with Māori Wards? Answer – “as part of the criteria there would need to be a community discussion”.
- “There needs to be sensible decisions around what programmes you should delay”.
- Question – in the Backstop can we seriously influence the decision? Answer – “the Government will recognize discussions made if amalgamation is not over the line but there will be change”.
- Question – what happens if the Government changes? Answer - “Opposition parties have been briefed”. (Government would follow direction here but opposition parties have been quiet on this). “The broad direction of Government is likely to be maintained”.
- “Some councils don't face the challenge that others do but 10 years out there is probably not a single council that doesn't need change”.
- Question – will you pause the LTP processes? No advice given is the answer, however “That is something you'll have to ask the Ministers”.

- Question from Manawatu District Council – could we form a CCO to deal with regional re-organisation? Here there was not a clear answer except for “Head Start is focused on amalgamation” (*note this is a question that I proposed to the previous Mayoral Forum*).
- Final quote from DIA staff - “lessons have been learned from the Three Waters discussion”.

*My interpretation of that remark is to look at the stages of Water Reform.*

- a) The initial view of Labour = 4 water entities for NZ*
- b) It was then increased to 10 entities*
- c) The further expectation from National was to have about 20-23 entities*
- d) We have ended up with about 40 entities.*

*Here there is a clear message, in my opinion, that Government doesn’t want to see a repeat of this creep.*

*My feeling at the end of this session was amalgamation is the endgame of Government. Officials did refer to bespoke arrangements but left the hard direction to the Minister in tomorrow’s session.*

#### 5. Session 5 – Panel Discussion: Different Models within Unitaries

Dame Fran Wilde – Mayor South Wairarapa  
 Cr Andy Baker – Auckland Council  
 Jonathan Salter – Simpson Grierson

Andy Baker –

- “Auckland has still been a success in spite of a couple of areas”.

Fran Wilde –

- “Auckland could have been done better”.
- “Community Boards should have real power”.
- “Governing boards should be the board – leave councils as councils”.
- “Local boards need more money and more delegation”.
- “Don’t use the Auckland model” (the inference/direction here is that even under amalgamation you can choose the model – *this is the principle I agree with completely*).

Jonathan Salter -

- “1989 reforms were very successful”.
- *Note: 1989 had a sufficient timeframe backed by a Commission – a 2-year process?*
- “Important that the new entities have management of the rivers, mountains to the sea”.
- “Numbers of unitary authorities in one catchment area bothers me”.
- *Note: I totally agree with the last two points!*
- ‘Unprecedented for cabinet (i.e. Government) to frame this reform”.

#### 6. Session 6 – Jeremy Lightfoot, CE of MCERT (Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport)

- This was in essence an introductory session to the Ministry.
- The new ministry was set up in 2026.
- Exists now but not effective yet or in place until July.
- This session was really set up to illustrate that Government is looking to aggregate to also save money within the ministries.

**DAY 2****1. Session 1 - LGNZ**

Dan Gordon Vice-President  
Scott Necklen – CE

- LGNZ thanked the sector leaders.
- “Surprised by Government announcements”.
- “Whether we like it or not change is coming even without detail of these changes”.
- ‘We accept one model doesn’t suit all and there could be bespoke arrangements”.
- “Ideally we would like more time but the clock is ticking”.
- “Most of us accept that change is needed especially in the funding of Local Government”.
- “We need clarity from Government”.
- “It is very clear that direction is set by ministers not the officials”.

There was a survey taken at the start of Day 1 on where people stood in terms of these reforms

- a) 12% of the sector does not want reform.
- b) Just under 50% want to be part of the Head Start process.
- c) 36% not sure.

*Note: 90% of councils in the survey said that the requirement to do a 10 Year LTP should be changed.*

Scott Necklen -

- “We need clarity around the Backstop process”.
- “There is a political spin on reforms in an election year”.
- “LGNZ will provide a manifesto of wants before the election as a one-pager”.
- “The budget announcements will feed into that manifesto”.
- “A webinar series will start on Monday by LGNZ”” (*note – the first webinar was on understanding Unitary Authorities – something that I and Cr Baird and Dalgety sat it on – we will provide notes on that later.*)
- “LGNZ will engage with all parties in Wellington”.

**2. Session 2 – Government Address**

Chris Bishop on Head Start Reform

- “People get fixated on Regional Council reform, but we are fixated on combined territorial board reforms”.
- “Wellington has looked amalgamation for a very long time”.
- “Several areas say we are good to go”.
- “RMA reform is underway, along with the Development Contributions Reform so the Government decided to go with Local Government Reform in association with this”. *Note - this is justifying that he is the Minister of RMA reform and justified in taking the Local Government position.*
- “Head Start kicks in in 2028. We will accept proposals if they are a few days over 9 August”.
- “Amalgamation can be done in 3 ways –
  - a) By Royal Commission which takes too long and is too expensive
  - b) By way of Government decision
  - c) Clear Government expectation but locally lead”.
 The Minister believes that c) is the best option but goes on to say, “But will not be perfect”.

- “A carrot and stick approach here – the Backstop will be heavier on Central Government direction than community direction”.
- “Central Government is also sorting itself out with the new ministry”.
- “We have been partners with LGNZ in the past and we are wanting to correct this”.

### 3. Session 3 – Opposition Address

Tangi Utikere – Labour’s Local Government Spokesperson

- With regards to rates capping -
  - “We have still have not heard from the Government regarding this process”.
  - “My concerns are a loss of service etc.”
  - “Rates capping with Government’s support is more palatable”.
  - “There are no additional revenue streams”.
  - Question from floor – will Labour rule out rates capping? Answer – “we are still waiting on the details; we want a bipartisan approach also including Head Start”.
- Head Start – “Labour is not into forced amalgamation”.
- “We would support communities that want a change”.
- “We (Labour) want to see what happens over the next 90 days”.
- “National should have engaged well with us to allow for more time”.
- Question – when can we expect a Labour policy? Answer – “the remains of our policies will come out post-budget”.
- “The policy on Head Start will come out post the 90 days”.
- ‘I am not a fan of roads of national significance other than those signed up/started regarding the transport sector’. *Note - Tangi is also the Labour spokesperson for Roading.*

### 4. Session 4 – Regional Resilience in an Uncertain Economy

Phil O’Reilly ONZM – Managing Partner of Iron Duke

*Phil has an incredibly strong background in finance matters, represents NZ offshore and is involved in many, many trade negotiations and financial analyses.*

- “NZ can take advantage in the changes we see in the world; the global system was under extreme pressure before Trump came along but Trump effectively exploded it”.
- “It will need and will resettle to the new norm”.
- “Will need different thinking and councils will come into play for part of that”.
- “Latin America, India and Vietnam all want to do business with us.
- The average age of people in India will be under 30 for the next 30 years and India is over-stripping OECD growth
- Vietnam is in the same position.
- This was a fascinating presentation, and I have included his presentation notes. The final points in the presentation on the Do’s and Don’ts for Councils are worth considering.

### 5. Session 5 – Energy Resilience

John Carnegie – Chief Executive, Energy and Resources Aotearoa and James Kilty - Chief Executive, Transpower (note previous Head of Powerco)

John Carnegie -

- “In 1950 we (NZ) were ranked second on a per capita basis in the OECD countries. We are now second to last”.

- “Electricity grid capacity needs to double to satisfy electrification.” *Here the point is that NZ does not have the capacity in the grid to provide for the increase in electric cars etc.*
- “Between 2050 and 2060 the tax take will only cover super and health”. *This illustrates NZ’s financial trajectory coming from Treasury reports.*
- “NZ has suffered from poor energy governance”.
- He illustrated the number of quotes and papers saying that coal and gas are running out and questioned the facts around this. I am not sure if I have recorded this point exactly as it seems out of kilter.

James Kilty -

- “We are currently energy constrained but we have huge potential”.
- “Councils need to support the potential we have”. *This is a reference to the difficulty of consenting issues and the time delays.*
- “NZ is currently using 90% renewable energy while the world average is 30%. We are rapidly moving to fully 100% renewable energy”.
- “Please refer to Transpower Future Directions on our website with the 5 Potential Futures”. *I hold James Kilty in high regard for his knowledge and passion for electricity and energy so I did refer to the website. His points included the 5 scenarios and is worth referring to but a warning it is a highly technical report and takes a lot of time to understand.*

**LGNZ ZOOM “HOW DO UNITARY AUTHORITIES WORK”**

Presented by Mayor Nadine from Marlborough Council and Leonie Rae Chief Executive of Tasman District Council. I note that this Zoom call was also attended by Councillors Baird and Dalgety

Key messages -

- “Unitary Authorities work well”.
- “A Unitary Authority has one balance sheet not two”.
- “There is a saving on total rates paid by residents under a Unitary Authority”.
- “Unitary Authorities provide a co-ordinated approach on land use and consenting”.
- When questioned on whether river catchments should sit within one Council the reply was Yes that was important, as are communities of interest.
- Advice was also to avoid discarding Metros from the Unitary process because they intend to be the significant funders.
- The question was asked “How are tensions managed between Unitary and Council functions within one authority?” (note this was a great question). The reply –
  - a) “You need regulatory separation within Council;
  - b) In governance you must have Councillors sitting on different committees i.e. two distinct sides of Council. Councillors must choose and are unable to sit on both”.
- “Recruitment of staff for a small Unitary Authority will be challenging. These are specialised skills that come at a significant cost”.
- “There needs to be a solid/sizeable rating base and there needs to be partnerships with Iwi”.
- There was a comment made that “politics have no place in the regulatory function”.
- “Time demands on Councillors is high, but it is still not a full time position”.
- “There is a need for a balance of rural/urban voices on Council”.

**SO WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE RANGITĪKEI?**

**ITEM 8.1**

- On 22 May we saw the opening of the new Stables Motel in Bulls. What a fantastic resource it is – the theming and presentation is incredible, and I congratulate the Dalrymple and Turkington families and the partnership with Humphries Construction.
- Considerable time has been spent on Central Districts Water and progress has been huge. The new Board is in place. The Statement of Expectations (SOE) which is the significant document that represents the three Councils’ interests is near sign off. The relationship between Iwi and the Councils as representatives is solid. Our entity is being regarded as one of the new entities that is really making gains.
- Myself and the Chief Executive attended the Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa commemoration of the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi on 21 May at the Tawhirihoē Monument.
- We have just been through the Annual Plan submission and decision-making process. I don’t expect to see any significant deviation from the 6.4% average rate increase that we have held across the district. I would like to take the time to thank those people who have submitted as part of the process and to staff and Councillors for their time.
- There are a number of solar farms going through consenting or consented within the Marton area. These are very significant developments. There is, by my count, nearly 900ha of land that could potentially convert to solar use surrounding Marton. We also have a number of wind farms going through proposals spread between our coastal and northern regions. Putting these in place will have a high labour demand in set-up, a labour demand that we would need to call on Whanganui and Palmerston North to be able to fulfil with literally hundreds of people being needed if it all happens. We are already in discussions around potential start dates for some of those solar farms. It’s interesting that the amount of power that will be generated from these will be significant nationally and far exceeds the power demand of the Rangitīkei.
- Recently a hui was held in Taihape at the old Taihape Hospital involving conversations between Te Whatu Ora Health NZ, Taihape Health and Mokai Patea Services. We seem to be closer to a solution, and it is now up to Te Whatu Ora Health NZ to come back with a definitive position in regard to potential land lease. I thank the attitude of Mokai Patea Services and Jude and Taihape Health for their long-term vision.
- Following an expression of interest I have used my powers under section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002 to appoint Councillor Alan Buckendahl to the Finance/Performance Committee.

**Mayor’s Engagements**

**May 2026**

8	Attended Mayoral Forum Workshop Attended Central Districts Water Chair/Mayors Meeting Attended LGNZ Briefing with DIA on Government’s Head Start process
9	Attended Presentation of Community Volunteer Award to Alan & Faye Giles
10	Attended Church at Ratana and meeting with Tumuaki Attended meeting with Suze Redmayne MP

11	Attended Youth Council Meeting
12	Attended meeting with Central Districts Water Shareholders Committee Chair Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended Monthly Economic Development Meeting with staff Attended RDC/Police monthly meeting Attended Online Local Government Sector Meeting with Ministers Attended Quarterly Regional Relationship Meeting with NZTA Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
13	Attended meeting with Taihape constituents Attended meeting with Deputy Mayor and staff regarding Minister’s Announcement on Simplifying Local Government Attended meeting with Marton constituent
14	Attended Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Core Group Meeting in Wellington Attended LGNZ Rural & Provincial Sector Meeting in Wellington
15	Attended LGNZ Rural & Provincial Sector Meeting in Wellington Attended Head Start/Backstop Horizons Regional online Hui
16	Attended meeting with Central Ward Councillor Attended funeral service for Frances Wilson
18	Attended LGNZ Zoom on Unitary Authorities Attended meeting with Nestle Attended monthly meeting with Comms Staff Attended meeting with Mayor Michael Ford Attended Techweek – Regional Energy Outlook Event in Whanganui
19	Attended Regional Transport Matters   Regional Chief’s Fortnightly Online Hui Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with Ngati Hauiti GM to initiate the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe process Attended Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
20	Attended meeting with comms staff regarding media enquiries Attended Zone 3 online planning hui Attended meeting with Aquila Clean Energy Attended Hui with Health New Zealand at Taihape Hospital Attended Creative Communities Scheme Meeting
23	Attended presentation of Community Volunteer Award to Lowie Harrison
24	Attended Multicultural Council Rangitikei/Whanganui AGM
25	Attended meeting with comms staff to film video around Local Government Reform Attended meeting with Bulls Friendship Club

**ITEM 8.1**

26	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended 6 weekly Mayors Taskforce for Jobs catchup with staff</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
27	<p>Attended Central Districts Water Workshops</p> <p>Attended Meeting with Green Party Candidate for Rangitikei Bernard Long</p>
28	<p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended Council Workshop</p> <p>Attended Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Risk/Assurance Meeting</p> <p>Attended Finance/Performance Committee Meeting</p> <p>Attended Taihape Grandstand Restoration Committee meeting</p>
29	<p>Attended Central Districts Water workshop</p> <p>Attended TUIA Wananga at Opatia Marae Rotorua</p>
30	<p>Attended meeting with Taihape Station Owners</p> <p>Attended celebration of Helen Cooper’s KSM</p>

**June 2026**

2	<p>Attended CDW catchup with Shareholders Committee Chair</p> <p>Attended CDW Workshop with Nga Tapuwae o Hau</p> <p>Attended meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p>
3	<p>Attended monthly Governor’s Q&amp;A session with Executive Leadership Team</p> <p>Attended CDW Workshop with Horowhenua District Council Elected Members</p> <p>Attended meeting with Minister Patterson – Minister for Primary Industries</p> <p>Attended Mayor’s Briefing before Council with staff</p> <p>Attended Hunterville Community Meeting on Local Government Reform</p> <p>Attended Hunterville Community Committee Meeting</p>
4	<p>Attended Ngati Apa Day Tour with Elected Members and Executive Leadership Team</p> <p>Attended Livestream Public Meeting – Simplifying Local Government</p>
5	<p>Attended 6 weekly Mayors Taskforce for Jobs catchup with staff</p> <p>Attended LGNZ Online Briefing on Head Start</p> <p>Attended CDW Project Oversight Group meeting</p>
6	<p>To attend Open Day at Otiwhiti School of Agriculture</p>
8	<p>To attend catchup meeting with Suze Redmayne MP Rangitikei</p> <p>To attend meeting with Rangitikei Labour candidate Karl Severinsen</p> <p>To attend Mayoral Forum Meeting</p>
9	<p>To attend meeting with Chief Executive</p>

	<p>To attend LGNZ online briefing: What are Regional Council Functions</p> <p>To attend Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti Meeting</p> <p>To attend weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor</p> <p>To attend Ratana Community Meeting on Local Government Reform</p> <p>To attend Ratana Community Board Meeting</p>
10	<p>To attend Taihape Community Meeting on Local Government Reform</p> <p>To attend Taihape Community Boad meeting</p>
11	<p>To attend meeting with Chief Executive</p> <p>To attend Council Meeting and Council Workshop</p> <p>To attend Turakina Community Meeting on Local Government Reform</p> <p>To attend Turakina Community Committee Meeting</p>

**Attachments:**

1. **Regional Resilience in an Uncertain Economy - Phil O'Reilly presentation to Rural and Provincial Sector Meeting May 2026** [↓](#)
2. **Unconfirmed Minutes Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee Meeting - 22 May 2026** [↓](#)
3. **Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee recommendations for Councils' approval** [↓](#)

**Recommendation 1**

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

**Recommendation 2**

That Council approves the following recommendations from the Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee Meeting held on 22 May 2026:

1. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapūwae o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.
3. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders’ Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders’ Committee representatives for that Council.

ITEM 8.1

ATTACHMENT 1



**Iron Duke**  
PARTNERS

# Local Government New Zealand

Presented by Phil O'Reilly

**15 May 2026**

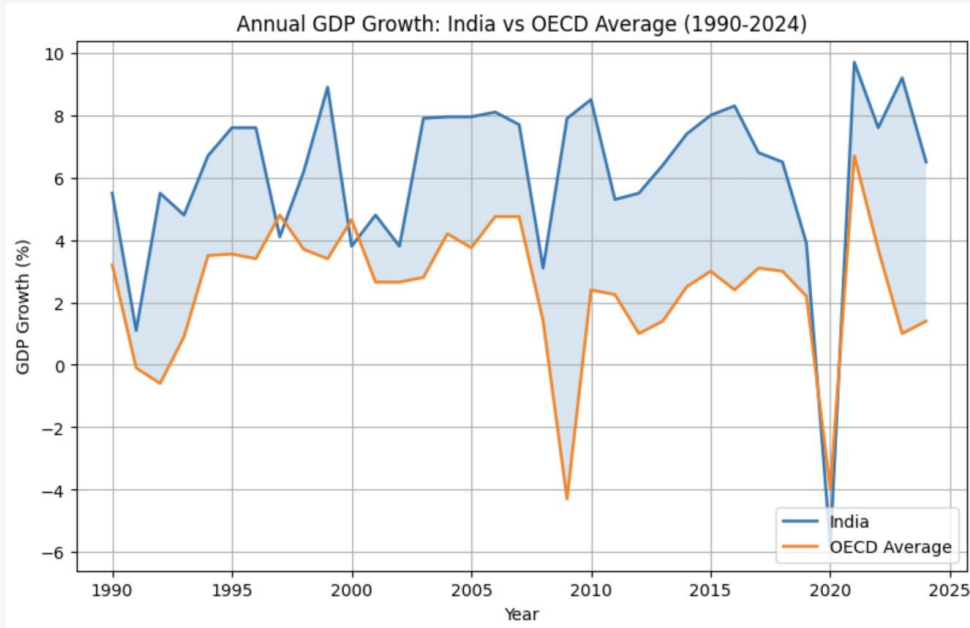


ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 1



**The world we now see - reglobalising**

# New growth opportunities - India



World Bank Group: GDP growth (annual %), India vs OECD average



**6.7% annual GDP growth last 20 years**  
vs ~2% for OECD



**Median age of 28 (65% pop. under 35)**  
vs ~40 for OECD

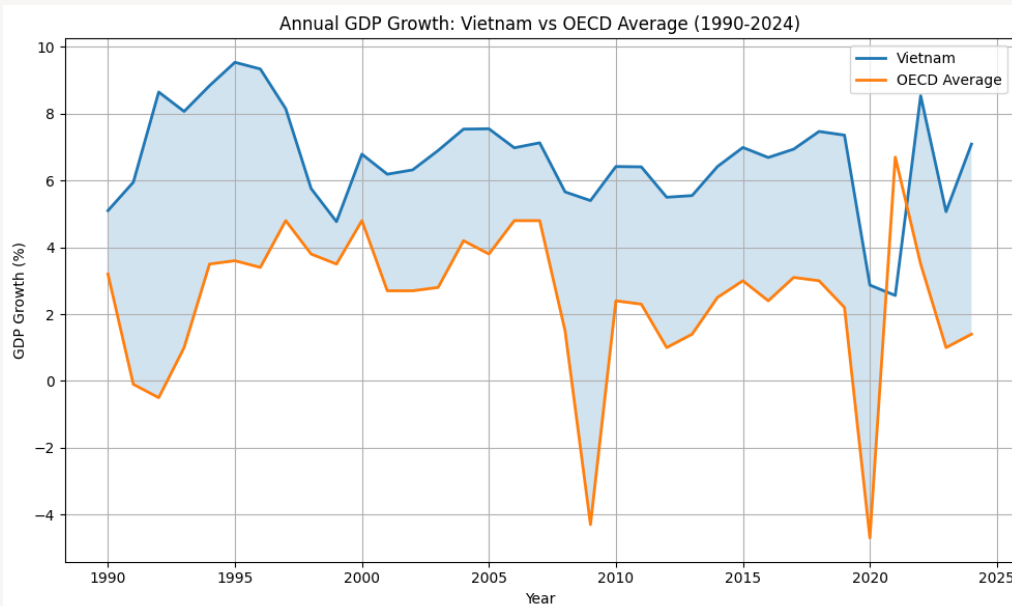


**A rising middle class**  
A projected 580 million by 2030



**3<sup>rd</sup> largest consumer market**  
Forecast by 2030

# New growth opportunities - Vietnam



World Bank Group: GDP growth (annual %), Vietnam vs OECD average



**6.3% annual GDP growth last 20 years**  
vs ~2% for OECD



**Median age of 33**  
vs ~40 for OECD

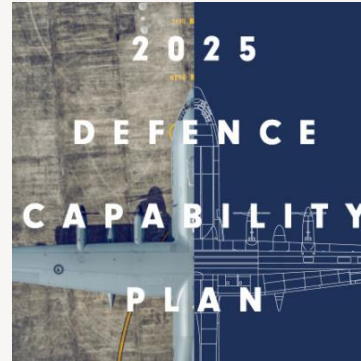


**Young & expanding workforce**  
~53m - one of largest in SEA



**Manufacturing powerhouse**  
Exports 85% of GDP

# Resilience - the new fundamental

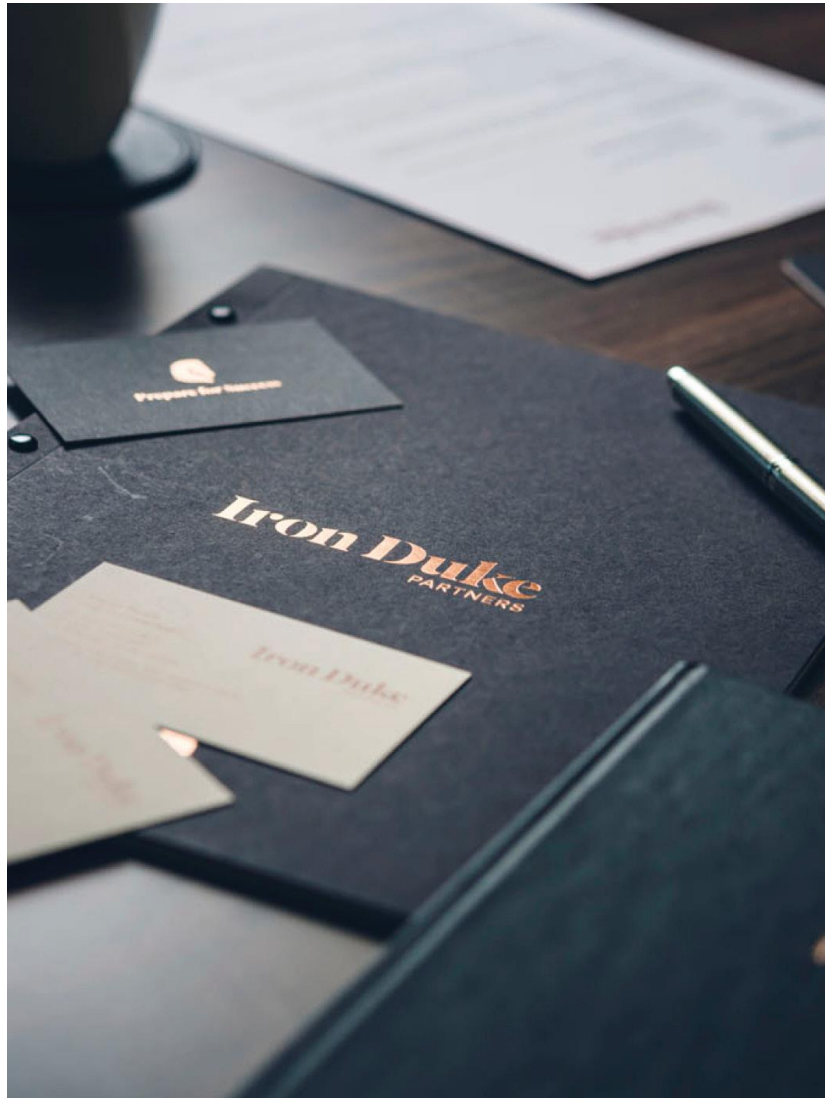


**Iron Duke**  
PARTNERS

# Trust - newfound importance

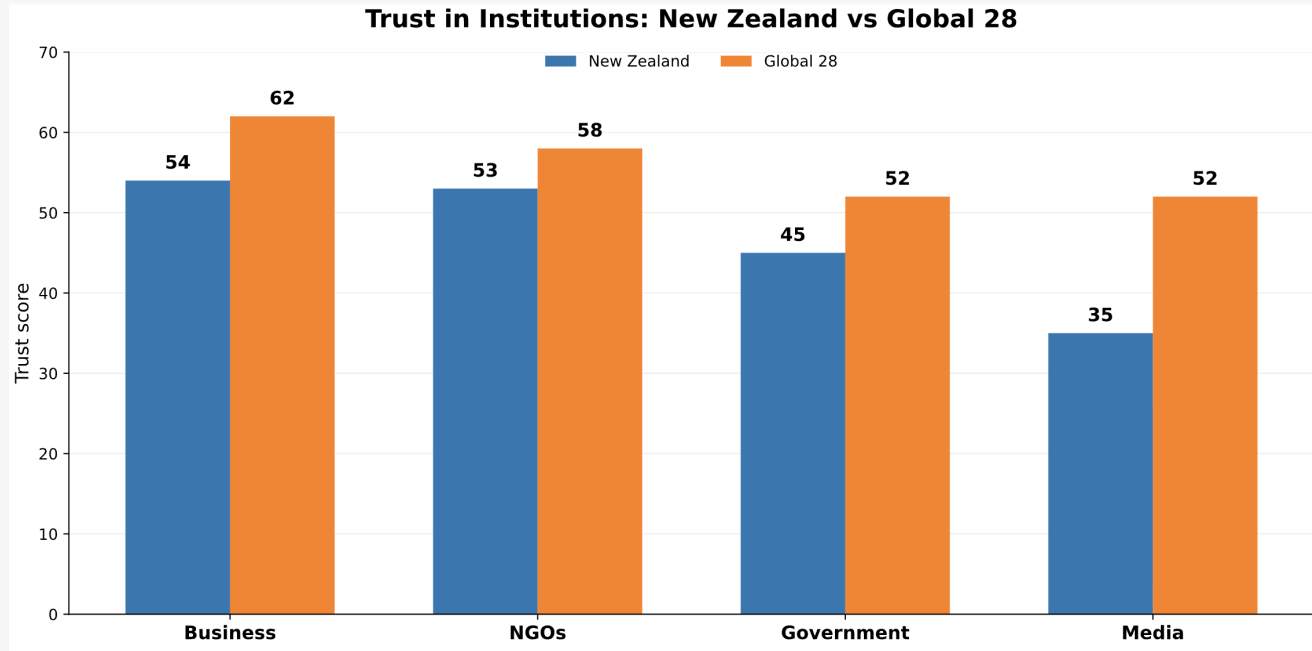


**Iron Duke**  
PARTNERS



# What role can local government play?

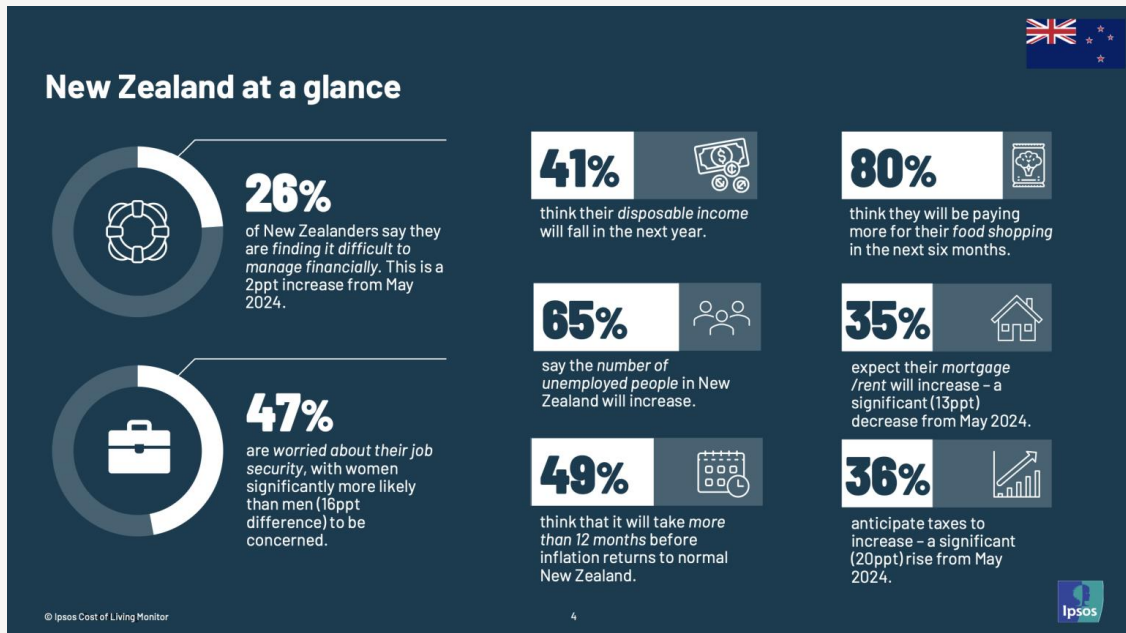
# Trust in institutions



Acumen Edelman Trust Barometer 2025



# We are feeling pessimistic



Ipsos Cost of Living Monitor 2025 (NZ)



**NZ Herald**  
 'Saw the gold and ran for it': What is driving the Kiwi exodus to Australia  
 Share this article ... The New Zealand job market has gone "tits up", says a young Kiwi from the Bay of Plenty who crossed the ditch to Australia.  
 26 Feb 2026

**The Spinoff**  
 I'm a 24-year-old NZ graduate. Here's why I'm moving to Australia  
 I believed in the social contract: study, work hard, get ahead, build a life. Now I realise that deal no longer applies – at least not here.  
 27 Jan 2026

**RNZ**  
 'Painfully easy': Why more Kiwis are choosing to go to Australia  
 "It makes me wonder who's left at home sometimes," says a 27-year-old who moved from Whangārei to Melbourne.  
 14 Nov 2025

**The Guardian**  
 As record numbers leave New Zealand, why are most people choosing Australia?  
 A weak economy is pushing more New Zealanders across the 'ditch' in hope of a better life – and higher wages.  
 2 Nov 2025

Particularly for our young people

# What can councils - and only councils do?



**Sense of place**



**Local communities**



**Local connections  
and infrastructure**



**Local convening  
power**



**Local consenting  
and permission**



**Local iwi  
relationships**



**Making  
connections with  
government locally  
relevant**



**Local advocacy**



# Do they really trust you?

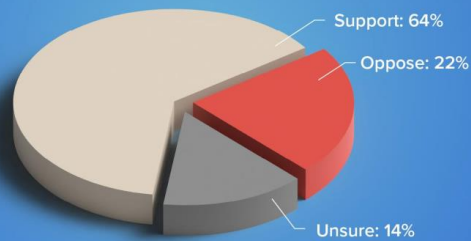
POLITICS / RNZ-REID RESEARCH POLL

## RNZ-Reid Research poll: 75% of voters support a rates cap

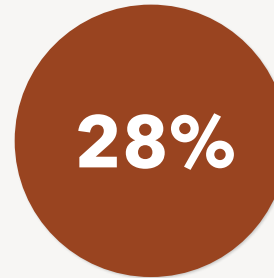
2:11 pm on 18 September 2025

Share this    

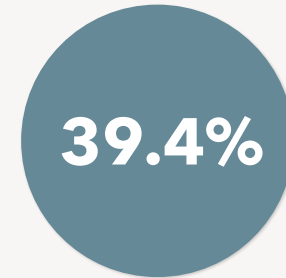
### Do voters support a rates cap law?



Source: Taxpayers' Union-Curia August poll. Available at [https://www.taxpayers.org.nz/poll\\_rates\\_cap0825](https://www.taxpayers.org.nz/poll_rates_cap0825)



**Council reputation**  
(LGNZ survey, 2017)



**Local election voter turnout**  
(2025)

### Do the people want amalgamation?

## Leaked poll shows cautious backing for Wellington super-council

 **Andrea Vance** | The Post

May 9, 2026

 Share

ITEM 8.1 ATTACHMENT 1

**Change is coming.**





# A better future



## Do

- Represent your constituents
- Start working on what a good future could look like
- Be creative
- Work with like-minded others
- Propose alternatives
- Do the numbers
- Demonstrate what success could look like - economic and social
- Think long term

## Don't

- Put your council at the centre
- Moan and complain
- Do nothing
- Tell everyone you are different
- Rely on your low rates
- Think short term



**Minutes of the Joint Shareholders' Committee - Central Districts Water Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on 22 May 2026, commencing at 10.05am.**

**Members Present:** Mr Chris Gallavin (in the Chair)) and Councillors Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

**Members Present online:** The Mayor (Grant Smith), Ms Danielle Harris

**Non Members:** Ms Di Rump

**Karakia Timatanga**

Mr Hayden Turoa opened the meeting with karakia.

**14-26 Late Item**

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Mayor Andy Watson.

**The COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee agree the late item.

**Reasons for lateness:** Timing of Committee agenda did not align with Board agenda preparation.

**Reasons for urgency:** Progress will be out of date by the time the Committee next meets in August.

Clause 14-26 above was carried 9 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, and Mr Hayden Turoa.

Ms Marj Heeney entered the meeting at 10.14am.

**Draft Statement of Expectations**

Memorandum, presented by Chris Gallavin, Committee Chair.

The Committee shared their thoughts on the revised draft.



JOINT SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE - CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER - PART I - 22 MAY 2026

The Chair summarised that themes raised which had received the broad agreement of the room were:

- The document be written in a way that gives customers assurance- this may mean being more directive in the first year
- Sections referring to relationship to be strengthened
- References to affordability should be refined to reference the obligation committed to in the Water Services Delivery Plan
- The length of the initial Statement of Expectations to be a year in the establishment phase
- More refinement needed of local statements
- Improve clarity re: what the Company is to report on (including that reporting be forward looking)

**15-26 Reporting protocols of Committee**

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapuwae o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.
3. That the Joint Shareholders' Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders' Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders' Committee representatives for that Council.

Clause 15-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

**16-26 Confirmation of meeting schedule**

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

Moved Mr Chris Gallavin, seconded Ms Marj Heeney.



JOINT SHAREHOLDERS' COMMITTEE - CENTRAL DISTRICTS WATER - PART I - 22 MAY 2026

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee agree the schedule of meetings set out in section 2 of this memorandum, noting change of start time for 26 June 2026 and locations of all meetings.

Clause 16-26 above was carried 10 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mr Chris Gallavin, Mayor Andy Watson, Mayor Bernie Wanden, Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Councillor Sam Jennings, Kaydee Zabelin, Ms Danielle Harris, Mr Hayden Turoa and Ms Marj Heeney.

**Transition update from Chief Executives**

Memorandum, presented by Chris Dhyrberg, Executive Director.

The Committee received the update.

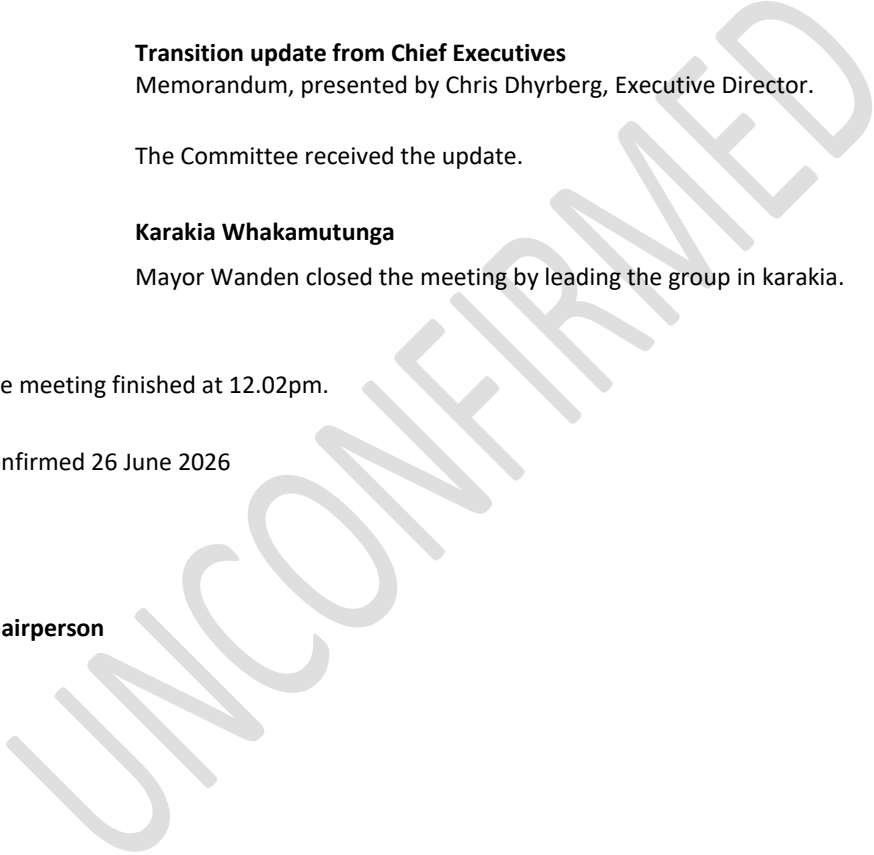
**Karakia Whakamutunga**

Mayor Wanden closed the meeting by leading the group in karakia.

The meeting finished at 12.02pm.

Confirmed 26 June 2026

**Chairperson**





**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE**

**TO: Council**

**MEETING DATE: 24 June 2026**

**TITLE: Presentation of the Part I Public Joint Shareholders' Committee - Central Districts Water Recommendations from its 22 May 2026 Meeting**

Set out below are the recommendations only from the Joint Shareholders' Committee - Central Districts Water meeting Part I Public held on 22 May 2026. The Council may resolve to adopt, amend, receive, note or not adopt any such recommendations. (SO 2.18.1)

**15-26 Reporting protocols of Committee**

Memorandum, presented by Hannah White, Manager Governance.

The **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS**

1. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee report the progress of its work to each of the Councils and Ngā Tapuwāe o Hau, twice a year, and that the Chair of the Committee present those reports.
2. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee review its reporting frequency after 12 months.
3. That the Joint Shareholders’ Committee minutes be circulated according to the process set out in Table 1.
4. That any Joint Shareholders’ Committee recommendations be put to each of the Councils by the Joint Shareholders’ Committee representatives for that Council.

## 9 Chief Executive's Report

### 9.1 Chief Executive's Report - June 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 May 2026:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 – Manawatu Dirt Divas – Women's MTB XC Relay Race – MTB and Walking tracks – Tutaenui Reservoir
- 9<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Music festival and events NZ board – NZ May Music Month — Village Green, Marton
- 12th May - August 2026 Tuesdays booking – T.A.S – Senior boys rugby training – Field 1, Memorial Park, Taihape
- 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026 – Manawatu Mountain Bike Club – Winter cross country MTB Series – MTB and walking tracks – Tutaenui Reservoir

#### 3. Staff Movements in April

- 3.1 There were no new staff, and no staff exits in May 2026.

#### 4. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard

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

#### 5. Submissions

- 5.1 The updated list of current opportunities to submit on consultations run by external agencies is attached (Attachment 2).
- 5.2 Consultations submitted on:
- 5.2.1 Emergency Management Rule 1 – forms for Declarations for states of emergency and transition periods (12 May 2026).
  - 5.2.2 Commerce Commission's proposed approach for demonstrating ring-fencing water revenues by regulated suppliers (which includes Rangitikei District Council for now, and Central Districts Water from 1 July 2027).
  - 5.2.3 Council did not make any joint submissions with other councils since the last report.
- 5.3 There are no other current consultations for submission.
- 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 Local Water Done Well / Central Districts Water.
- 6.2 A reminder that 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) Chief Executive progressing.
- 6.3.2 CDW Board met 27 May. Their next meeting is 10 June. Public notice available here: <https://www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz/News/Notice-of-upcoming-board-meetings>
- 6.3.3 Establishment planning by the CDW establishment team workplans (per workstream) are drafted (for Board endorsement). Customer and digital strategy was briefed to the Project Steering Group (Council CE's) and presented to Board. Monthly workshops to direct workstream progress. Helen Churton (PNCC) was seconded to lead the development of the Water Service Strategy (WSS).
- 6.3.4 Shareholders Committee meetings and workshops are ongoing for formulation of Statement of Expectations, including with Ngā Tapuwae o Hau. The final draft of the Statement of Expectations will be brought back to the Shareholders' Committee on 26 June 2026.
- 6.3.5 Transition Manager (TM) follow up with Taumata Arowai – the Water Services Authority was initiated in respect of RDC and rural water schemes. (RDC resolved in May 2025 not to transfer RWS assets to CDW).
- 6.3.6 Workshops with key council staff on Transfer Agreement (TA) related works commenced in May. Complete draft TA is intended by December 2026.
- 6.3.7 Debt principles for transfer of debt approved by CDW Board (29 April) and on Council agenda for this meeting.
- 6.3.8 Assessment of Community Access to Drinking Water drafted as required per Section 69 and 70 of the Water Services Act 2025 will be published by July 2026.
- 6.3.9 For further CDW updates go to: [www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz](http://www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz).
- 6.4 Update on key tasks:
- 6.4.1 CDW Board appointments to be confirmed *Complete*
- 6.4.2 WS-CCO Establishment CEO – to be appointed by mid-2026. *Underway*
- 6.4.3 Financing arrangements – agreed to by mid-2026. *Debt principles for approval.*
- 6.4.4 A reminder that the planned transfer date is 1 July 2027.
- 6.5 Minor updates to the Shareholders' Agreement and Constitution
- 6.5.1 On 11 December 2025, Council approved the Shareholders' Agreement and Constitution for Central Districts Water (CDW). When approving the two documents, Council also provided the Chief Executive the authority to agree minor

amendments prior to final approval. That authority also required the Chief Executive to report back to Council on any changes made under that delegation.

6.5.2 A number of minor changes to the Constitution were made following advice from Simpson Grierson during the process of lodgment with the Companies Office.

6.5.3 Council approved an updated Shareholders' Agreement on 7 May 2026. After that time Simpson Grierson undertook a final review of the updated Shareholders' Agreement when they produced the execution version. At this point Simpson Grierson identified several minor errors in the document that have been corrected.

6.5.4 Documents showing the minor changes are attached (Attachment 3) including a summary of the amendments for each document and a marked-up version of each document. Refer to recommendation 2 below.

## **7. Extra Funding for February 2026 Storm**

7.1 On 15–16 February 2026, the Rangitikei District was impacted by a severe weather event associated with a deep low-pressure system that tracked southward along the eastern areas of the North Island. The event caused widespread damage across the RDC roading network, primarily because of high winds and flooding.

7.2 At the 12 March 2026 Council meeting Council was advised that "Cost estimates to cover initial response and permanent repair are still being formulated, we anticipate the total cost to be in the order of \$2,000,000." At that meeting, funding of \$598,125 was approved as the local share of the anticipated \$2,000,000 response and recovery cost.

7.3 Once the full scope of works was confirmed, NZTA subsequently approved a final estimate of \$2,750,754, an increase of \$750,754 above the original estimate tabled to council on the 12 March 2026.

7.4 This increase will be subsidised at Council's Enhanced Financial Assistance Rate of 86%, and results in an additional local share requirement of \$105,106. This additional local share funding will need to be funded from external debt in the short term and then repaid via roading rates in 2027/28 - 2028/29 at approximately \$55,000 per annum.

7.5 Refer to recommendation 3 below.

## **8. Duck Crossing Petition – Request for Signage**

8.1 Council has received a petition/request from members of the community seeking the installation of signage on Mill Street, Marton to alert motorists and members of the public to the presence of ducks frequently crossing the road.

8.2 The petition does not meet the requirements for a formal petition under Council's Standing Orders, as it contains fewer than 20 signatures. Notwithstanding this, the matter has been referred to Council for consideration.

8.3 Operational budget for signage has been allocated for the year. There is a need for sign renewal across the district, and this sign would not be recommended as an operational priority. If Council decided to fund the sign, it would be unbudgeted expense. Council may wish to suggest the request is forwarded to the Marton Community Committee for funding via the Small Projects Fund.

8.4 A copy of the petition/request is attached as Attachment 4.

**9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1 Storm damage funding - extra funding for February storm damage to roading networks, item 7, should Council approve the recommendation, funding is proposed to be sourced through external borrowing and repaid via roading rates in 2027/28 - 2028/29 at approximately \$55,000 per annum.
- 9.2 Duck signage request – there is no operational budget available for this request.
- 9.3 There are no other identified financial implications associated with this report.

**10. Impact on Strategic Risks**

- 10.1 Legal and political environment requires excessive resources / changes to governmental legislation are transformational:
  - 10.1.1 Tracking external submissions ensures Council is aware of upcoming legislative changes which may require resources.
- 10.2 Obligations with health, safety and wellbeing are not met:
  - 10.2.1 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 Storm damage funding – providing roading is a core part of Council’s strategic framework.
- 11.2 Duck signage request – this request does not have strong strategic alignment.
- 11.3 There are no other 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 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 and Wellbeing Dashboard - May 2026** [↓](#)
2. **Current and Upcoming Submissions June 2026** [↓](#)
3. **CDW Constitution & Shareholder Agreement amendments (under separate cover)**
4. **Duck Crossing Signage Petition/Request** [↓](#)

**Recommendation 1**

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

**Recommendation 2**

That Council notes the minor and non-material changes that were approved by the Chief Executive to the Shareholders' Agreement and the Constitution, in accordance with the delegated authority provided by Council.

**Recommendation 3**

That Council does /does not *[delete one]* approve to fund the local share cost of \$105,106 for damaged sustained on the roading network following the 15-16 February 2026 weather event. The local share will be funded from external borrowing and repaid via roading rates in 2027/28 - 2028/29 at approximately \$55,000 per annum.



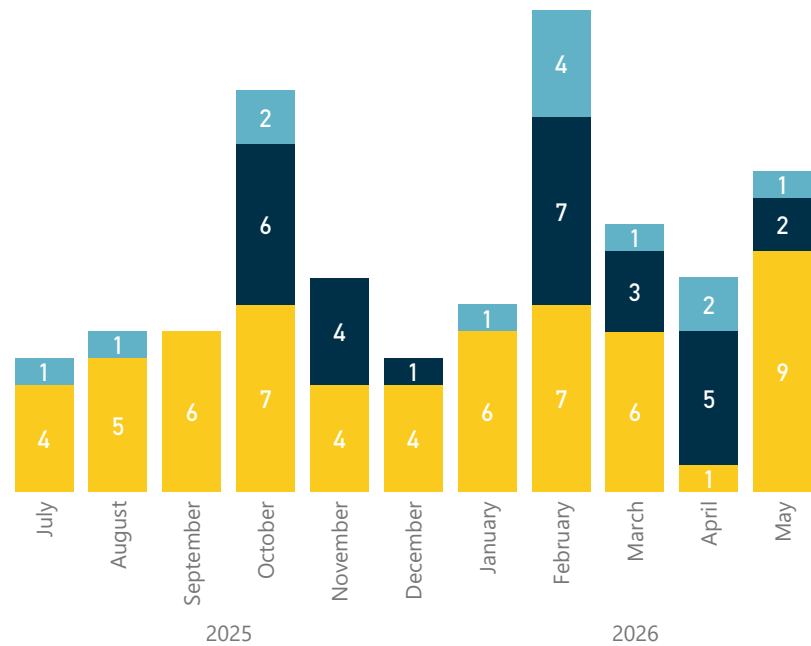
# RDC Health and Safety Dashboard May 2026

ITEM 9.1  
ATTACHMENT 1

## Events, Hazards and Near Misses

01 July 2025 to date

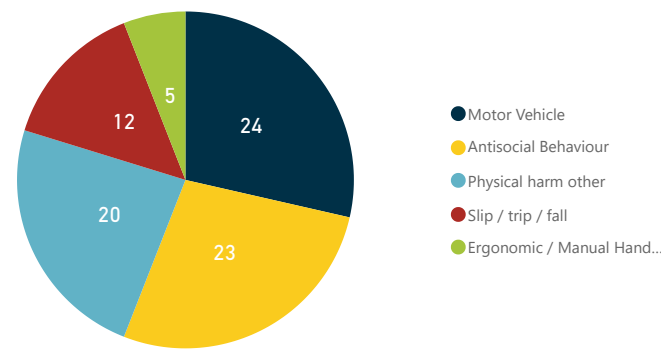
● Event ● Hazard ● Near Miss



## Category

Events, Hazards and Near Misses

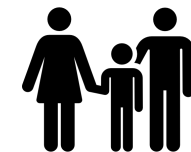
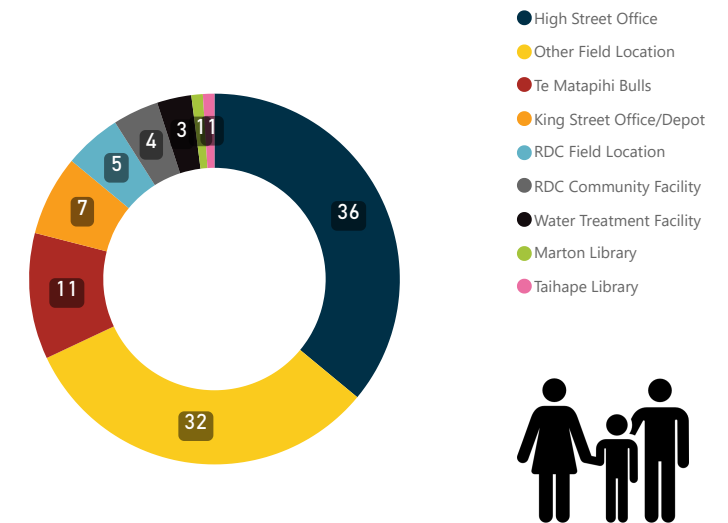
01 July 2025 to date (Top 5 Categories)



Total Events, Hazards and Near Misses: 100

## 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

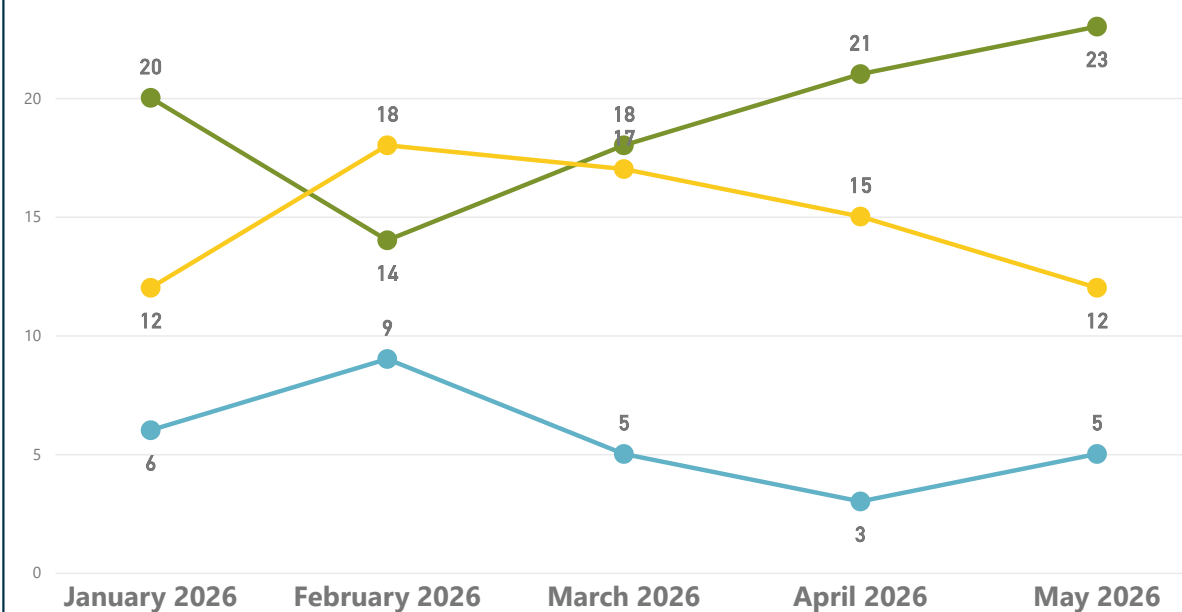
1

YTD

## Average Driver Ratings

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

● 5 Stars ● 4 Stars ● 3 Stars

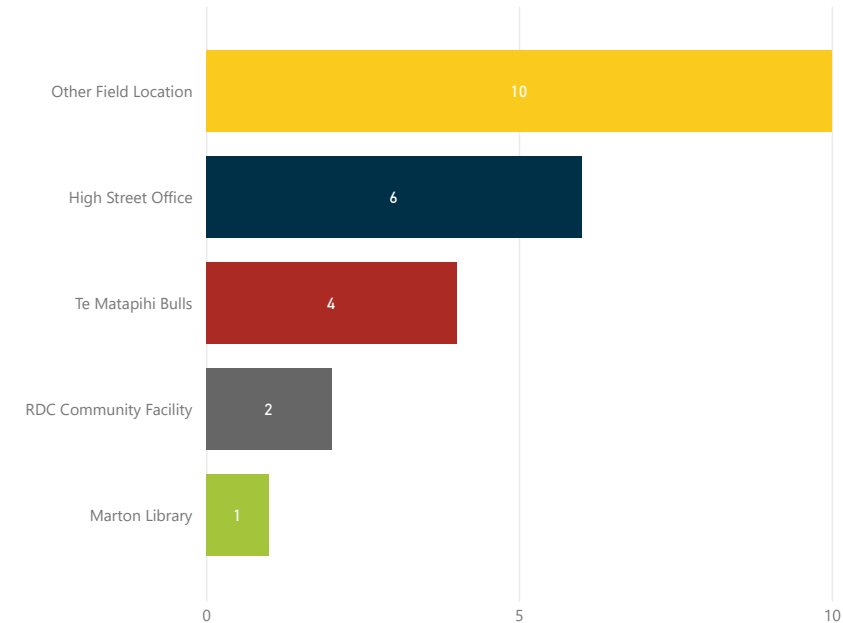


**71%** Completed Driver Safety Training

## Antisocial Behaviour - per location

Year to date

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



Name of Initiative	Agency engaging	Due date	Description	RDC Action
<b>Currently open for submissions</b>				
Serious Fraud Office Amendment Bill <a href="https://bills.parliament.nz/6/7f746346-ff5d-4fe8-54cc-08dea1b2f231?lang=en&amp;Tab=history">https://bills.parliament.nz/6/7f746346-ff5d-4fe8-54cc-08dea1b2f231?lang=en&amp;Tab=history</a>	Parliament Justice Committee	8-Jun	The Bill aims to help the Serious Fraud Office more effectively carry out its role by addressing two pressing issues - search warrants and evidence admissibility.	None
Residential Tenancies (Registration of Boarding House Landlords) Amendment Bill <a href="https://bills.parliament.nz/6/0c007074-c2d7-4e12-65c9-08ddc4d61c13?lang=en&amp;Tab=history">https://bills.parliament.nz/6/0c007074-c2d7-4e12-65c9-08ddc4d61c13?lang=en&amp;Tab=history</a>	Parliament Social Services and Community Committee	11-Jun	The Bill would require the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to create and maintain a register of boarding houses and boarding house landlords to enable better monitoring compliance with residential tenancy laws.	None
Ngā Hapū o Te Iwi o Whanganui Claims Settlement Bill <a href="https://bills.parliament.nz/6/d304044e-2550-4237-51d0-08deabc64c2a?lang=en&amp;Tab=history">https://bills.parliament.nz/6/d304044e-2550-4237-51d0-08deabc64c2a?lang=en&amp;Tab=history</a>	Parliament Maori Affairs Committee	11-Jun	This bill seeks to give effect to certain matters set out in the Ngā Hapū o Te Iwi o Whanganui Deed of Settlement, signed on 2 May 2026, which require legislative authority. <i>No direct impact on Rangitikei, but Andy may want to lend support</i>	None
Review of the Biosecurity (Ruminant Protein) Regulations 1999 <a href="https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/review-of-the-biosecurity-ruminant-protein-regulations-1999">https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/review-of-the-biosecurity-ruminant-protein-regulations-1999</a>	Ministry for Primary Industries	12-Jun	The Ministry is looking for feedback on ways in which the risk of disease can be reduced. The specific areas for feedback include: *cross-contamination during manufacturing *storage and transportation *how to deal with suspect animals *pet food *fertiliser and wastes containing ruminant proteins	None
Proposed regulations for road user charges <a href="https://consult.transport.govt.nz/policy/proposed-regulations-for-road-user-charges/">https://consult.transport.govt.nz/policy/proposed-regulations-for-road-user-charges/</a>	Ministry of Transport	12-Jun	The proposed regulations have five areas: *Electronic distance recorders – retaining relatively stringent requirements for heavy vehicles while adopting a more flexible outcomes-focused approach for light vehicles to support emerging technologies. *Approval of RUC providers – establishing criteria for entry, including financial, operational, and technical capability. *Performance requirements – setting ongoing obligations for revenue collection, data management, auditability, and compliance. *Information protection and privacy – requiring compliance with the Privacy Act 2020 and associated safeguards for handling road user data. *Alternative payment schemes – enabling different payment models, including post-paid systems, while ensuring revenue integrity	None
Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Amendment Bill	Parliament Primary Production Committee	15-Jun	The Bill has the following policy objectives: *to streamline application processes and improve regulatory efficiency and transparency: *to improve application pathways and provide certainty for applicants: *to support risk-proportionate decision-making and public participation: *to enhance compliance, monitoring, and enforcement under the HSNO Act. <i>The Environmental Protection Authority is responsible for approving applications.</i>	None
Draft time of use charging regulations <a href="https://consult.transport.govt.nz/policy/time-of-use-charging-regulations/">https://consult.transport.govt.nz/policy/time-of-use-charging-regulations/</a>	Ministry of Transport	25-Jun	Consultation is on the proposed regulations to support the design of future time of use charging schemes under the Land Transport Management (Time of Use Charging) Amendment Act 2025. The regulations would set nationally consistent rules for how time of use charging schemes operate.	None

ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 2

Terms of reference for the 2026-27 review of the Dairy Industry Restructuring Act 2001 <a href="https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/terms-of-reference-for-the-202627-review-of-the-dairy-industry-restructuring-act-2001">https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/terms-of-reference-for-the-202627-review-of-the-dairy-industry-restructuring-act-2001</a>	Ministry of Primary Industries	29-Jun	The scope of the review covers all existing provisions under Subparts 5 and 5A of Part 2 of the Dairy Industry Restructuring Act 2001 and the Dairy Industry Restructuring (Raw Milk) Regulations 2012 made under the enabling provisions of Subpart 5. These relate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the remaining 'open entry and exit' provisions;</li> <li>the base milk price settings; and</li> <li>the supply of regulated milk to other processors.</li> </ul>	None
NZTA Procurement Manual - feedback from Approved Organisations <a href="https://www.nzta.govt.nz/about-us/public-consultation-hub/current-consultations/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</a>	NZTA	31 March reopened 30-June	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
Conservation Amendment Bill <a href="https://www3.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/54SCENV_SCF_BD7D0F89-D8CB-42F7-9C5F-08DEABEDA048/conservation-amendment-bill">https://www3.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/54SCENV_SCF_BD7D0F89-D8CB-42F7-9C5F-08DEABEDA048/conservation-amendment-bill</a>	Parliament Environment Committee	2-Jul	The amendments focus on streamlining the conservation planning and land classification framework, improving the concessions regime regulated by that framework, broadening the Minister of Conservation's (the Minister's) ability to exchange or dispose of conservation land, enabling charging a levy to access parts of conservation land, and making other minor changes to create a more modern and user-friendly Act.	None
Proposals for new national direction on conservation <a href="https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2026-consultations/proposals-for-new-national-direction-for-conservation/">https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/have-your-say/all-consultations/2026-consultations/proposals-for-new-national-direction-for-conservation/</a>	Department of Conservation	2-Jul	The National Conservation Policy Statement will replace the current general policies that guide national conservation management (the Conservation General Policy and General Policy for National Parks). The NCPS covers these same functions but with solutions to address issues within the conservation management framework. There will be a single layer of "area plans".	None
Summary Offences (Move-on Orders) Amendment Bill <a href="https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/27d41ab-acd3-4afa-a59f-08deb151b1c7?lang=en&amp;Tab=history">https://bills.parliament.nz/v/6/27d41ab-acd3-4afa-a59f-08deb151b1c7?lang=en&amp;Tab=history</a>	Parliament Justice Committee	2-Jul	This bill amends the Summary Offences Act 1981 to empower the New Zealand Police to issue move-on orders to manage low-level disorderly behaviour and prevent escalation. The amendments aim to ensure that the Police are adequately equipped to address public disorder, increase the public's sense of safety, and support urban centres and economies.	None
Consultation on payment services regulation <a href="https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/payment-services-regulation">https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/payment-services-regulation</a>	MBIE	3-Jul	New Zealand does not have a single set of rules designed specifically for payment services. Different laws and requirements may apply depending on the service, how it is structured, and whether the provider is a bank or not. MBIE wants to understand what is working well, where there may be gaps or uncertainty, and what outcomes should matter most if further work is needed.	None
<a href="https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-on-the-employment-dispute-system">People's experiences with employment disputes and the dispute resolution system</a> <a href="https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-on-the-employment-dispute-system">https://www.mbie.govt.nz/have-your-say/consultation-on-the-employment-dispute-system</a>	Ministry of Business, Immigration and Employment	31-Jul	The Ministry is looking for feedback on experiences with employment relations disputes. Areas of interest include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>how disputes happen and areas of law that could be improved to minimise unnecessary disputes and lead to better resolution outcomes</li> <li>how disputes progress and what influences how early they are resolved or whether they escalate</li> <li>the time it takes to settle a dispute, and the impact this wait time has on the individual and/or business</li> <li>how well the government-provided dispute resolution system is working, including whether it is delivering efficient, affordable, and fair resolution. The feedback will be used to identify what changes could be made, either to the government-provided dispute resolution system or to the Act, to ensure the dispute resolution system is as effective and efficient as possible</li> </ul>	None

<p>Corruption Risk Assessment Tool  <a href="https://www.sfo.govt.nz/counter-fraud/corruption-risk-assessment-tool">https://www.sfo.govt.nz/counter-fraud/corruption-risk-assessment-tool</a></p>	<p>Serious Fraud Office</p>	<p>14-Aug</p>	<p>The Counter Fraud Centre at the Serious Fraud Office is developing a Corruption Risk Assessment Tool to support agencies, and potentially other entities, to proactively identify and assess insider threat risks presented by the nature and function of their organisations and provide guidance and education to support the mitigation of those risks. The objectives are to achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Better capability within agencies to detect and act on corruption risks specific to their environment. This will enable agencies to enact targeted interventions, support improved training and education for potentially at-risk staff or positions.</li> <li>*Greater public confidence that the public sector is live to the risks it might encounter and has a plan to prevent them before they occur.</li> <li>*Hardened defences for the public sector against those that might seek to corrupt it, from within or without.</li> </ul>	<p>None</p>
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ITEM 9.1 ATTACHMENT 4

Rangitikei District Council

4/05/26

I would like it brought to your attention please!!

That myself and most of residence in mill Street  
merton including James coat school would like to  
have signs put up stating that there are ducks  
crossing the road in this area, although most people  
are pretty good at letting them cross there a quite  
afew who aren't we've had over 12 killed on mill  
Street in the last week i don't like having to go out  
and pick them up off the road it breaks my heart  
every time this happens so if you could please  
put up signs this may help to stop it from happening  
the children don't want to see the dead ducks on  
road and neither do I or people living in street  
either. I appreciate your help to rectify this  
as soon as possible please. I get ~~get~~ signatures  
from residents if needed.

S. Blakelock - 75 mill Street Merton  
Phone 0273341881.

Thank you. S Blakelock.



SCANNED

To have Signs + Crossings put in Mill Street  
for ducks

Dewar  
Buchanan  
Mabel (principal) James Cook School  
S. Blakelock  
J. Blakelock  
New  
Hayley Childs  
D. D. D. D.



## 10 Reports for Decision

### 10.1 Central Districts Water - Debt Transfer

**Author: Brent Manning, Transition Manager**

**Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive**

#### 1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The transfer of water debt from the Rangitikei District Council and the other two shareholding Councils (together the **Shareholding Councils**) to Central Districts Water Limited (**CDW**) is a key part of the transfer agreement work, within the wider establishment programme for CDW.
- 1.2 This report seeks Council's approval on:
  - 1.1.1 the guiding principles for the water debt transfer and the water debt transfer method,
  - 1.1.2 the guarantees to be granted by the Shareholding Councils in respect of CDW's obligations to the New Zealand Local Government Funding Agency Limited (**LGFA**) and to certain other approved external lenders, including obtaining delegated authority to finalise, agree and execute the forms of guarantee presented to the Council; and
  - 1.1.3 this report will also inform Council as to progress and input required from Council in relation to CDW's accession to LGFA and the deed of support to be provided by the Shareholding Councils in favour of CDW. This is required in order to ensure CDW can meet its obligations in relation to any pre-establishment funding, including obtaining conditional delegated authority to finalise, agree and execute the forms of guarantee presented to Council.

#### 2. Context

- 2.1 A central component of the transition of water services from each of the three Shareholding Councils to CDW, is determining how existing water-related LGFA debt will be transferred to CDW in a manner that preserves economic neutrality, supports long-term financial sustainability and aligns with CDW's emerging funding and risk framework.
- 2.2 The Current Water Services Delivery Plan indicates that indicative water debt to be transferred at 30 June 2027 will be \$268.5M.
- 2.3 An additional central component is determining how CDW will fund both the water debt transfer and its establishment program, and relevantly the support required from the Shareholding Councils to facilitate CDW's access to such funding.
- 2.4 To ensure the success of this project, the Establishment team set up the treasury programme early and contracted PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) and Simpson Grierson to provide the core advice. It has also been a collaborative process with two workshops held with the Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) from each Council, the establishment Finance Lead, the Executive Director, PwC and Simpson Grierson.

- 2.5 A detailed workshop was also held with the CEs and CFOs to ensure the alignment of approach and following that, the board attended a joint workshop with Councils on 8 April where the proposed approach to the guiding principles, debt transfer method, Guarantees and Deed of Support was presented by PwC and Simpson Grierson.

### 3. Context

- 3.1 A central component of the transition of water services from each of the three Shareholding Councils to CDW, is determining how existing water-related LGFA debt will be transferred to CDW in a manner that preserves economic neutrality, supports long-term financial sustainability and aligns with CDW's emerging funding and risk framework.
- 3.2 The Current Water Services Delivery Plan indicates that indicative water debt to be transferred at 30 June 2027 will be \$268.5M.
- 3.3 An additional central component is determining how CDW will fund both the water debt transfer and its establishment program, and relevantly the support required from the Shareholding Councils to facilitate CDW's access to such funding.
- 3.4 To ensure the success of this project, the Establishment Team set up the treasury programme early and contracted PwC and Simpson Grierson to provide the core advice. It has also been a collaborative process with two workshops held with the Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) from each Council, the establishment Finance Lead, the Executive Director, PwC and Simpson Grierson.
- 3.5 A detailed workshop was also held with the CEs and CFOs to ensure the alignment of approach and following that, the board attended a joint workshop with Councils on 8 April where the proposed approach to the guiding principles, debt transfer method, Guarantees and Deed of Support was presented by PwC and Simpson Grierson.

### 4. Discussion and Options Considered

- 4.1 The guiding principles for the water debt transfer were developed to provide a framework to evaluate structural neutrality, governance clarity and financial sustainability in the context of CDW's establishment. The water debt transfer methods were contemplated against the guiding principles.<sup>1</sup> of:
- Fairness and equity,
  - Transparent documentation,
  - Sustainability and flexibility, and
  - Clarity and simplicity

### 5. Water Debt Transfer Method

#### The options for Council are discussed below:

- 5.1 Two viable debt transfer mechanisms were discussed as part of the work completed:
- (1) A **staged repayment structure** implemented via establishment loans from shareholder Councils.

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<sup>1</sup> Approved by CDW Board, 26 May 2026.

(2) **Legal novation** of selected LGFA debt instruments to CDW.

- 5.2 With staged repayment, CDW recognises the full water-related liability on Day One through establishment loans owed to Shareholding Councils. Over the agreed transition period, that liability progressively shifts from Shareholding Councils to external lenders as CDW refinances in its own right. This approach introduces a clear and defined transition window during which Shareholding Councils remain external borrowers and CDW can build capability to take on all lending over time.
- 5.3 Under a novation structure, selected LGFA instruments legally transfer to CDW at the agreed transfer date. CDW becomes the borrower of record immediately and manages the novated portfolio within its own Treasury Policy framework. Instrument selection is carefully calibrated to ensure alignment across weighted-average cost of funds and weighted average term, with fixing characteristics considered as a secondary factor. The same approach is taken by all three Shareholding Councils to ensure the principles above are achieved.

#### **Comparison of alternative approaches**

- 5.4 Irrespective of the selected mechanism, Shareholding Councils will be required to provide the LGFA Guarantee for CDW borrowings from LGFA in respect of the transferred water debt. Additional funding, including from banks or funding markets, may also be required on transfer of the water debt, and beyond any transition window. The transfer mechanism should not create a material difference for Shareholding Councils from a credit rating or LGFA covenant perspective. Our early engagement with rating agencies suggests they are likely to look through back-to-back lending arrangements, implying there is unlikely to be any sustained or material rating impact from one mechanism over the other.
- 5.5 Similarly, LGFA is expected to net any establishment loans off covenant metrics for Councils, meaning the net impact on council borrowing capacity is minimal between the two approaches. The choice between staged repayment and novation is not driven by rating or covenant outcomes - it reflects governance preferences regarding timing, balance sheet presentation, administrative complexity, and funding alignment. In our view, novation is better aligned with those considerations for CDW because it provides immediate structural separation, a clean balance sheet outcome, and a clearer Day One allocation of funding responsibility.

#### **Guarantees and Deed of Support**

- 5.6 CDW is investigating options to fund its 'establishment funding' (being pre-Day One funding) via LGFA and/or external financiers. This external funding will enable CDW to independently fund the remainder of the establishment programme before Day One and reduce the pressure on administration and Shareholding Council borrowings. The external establishment funding will be used to fund some of CDW's operational work, like the board meeting fees, remunerating the Chief Executive and ensuring the digital systems are set up and ready for Day One.
- 5.7 In relation to Guarantees, the Shareholders' Agreement relating to CDW, specifically included clauses recording each Shareholding Council agreed to take all steps necessary, at the required or desirable time before Day One, to provide:

- 5.7.1 guarantee in favour of LGFA (in amounts proportionate to each Shareholding Council's share of drinking water connections, or otherwise as may be agreed with LGFA), to enable CDW to access funding through LGFA (clause 7.2); and
- 5.7.2 a guarantee deed poll (in amounts proportionate to each Shareholder's share of drinking water connections, or otherwise as may be agreed) the benefit of which may, subject to clause 5.1(b) of the Shareholders' Agreement, be conferred by CDW on financiers of CDW from time to time (clause 7.3). Clause 5.1(b) of the Shareholders' Agreement relates the approval process in relation to 'Reserved Matters'.
- 5.8 Additional to the Guarantees, the Deed of Support is also required to allow CDW with the option to borrow during the pre-establishment phase to fund the costs of establishment rather than requiring Council's to fund. This requirement for the letter of support and an overview of the funding requirements, will be further workshopped with Council and the request for the deed of support will be sought at a subsequent Council meeting. With the pre-establishment funding being required prior to the water assets and rights transferring from the Shareholding Councils to CDW, that CDW (and CDW's board) will need support from the Shareholding Councils in order to ensure CDW can meet its obligations under such pre-establishment funding.
- 5.9 The LGFA Guarantee and Deed of Support will be required in order for CDW to accede to LGFA (required for both LGFA funding of the transfer of the water debt referred to above, and LGFA providing any establishment funding). The Global Guarantee is expected to be required in order for CDW to access external funding (other than from the LGFA), noting the bank 'request for proposal' process is ongoing and final proposals as to what external financiers may require are pending.
- 5.10 While CDW's funding structure (including funding requirements, budget and borrowing limits) are still being worked through, in order for CDW to proceed to obtain establishment funding in required timeframe, the Shareholding Councils' approval of the Guarantees as part of this paper and Deed of Support as part of a future Council paper is required. This approval is acknowledged as being conditional on the funding structure and all funding requirements, budgets, borrowing limits being acceptable to Council in all respects and each of the other Shareholding Council also approving the Guarantees and Deed of Support. A more detailed paper, outlining the forecast expenditure and the line of credit required will be presented to the Council at the June Council meeting as part of requesting the letter of support.

#### **CDW's Accession to LGFA**

- 5.11 CDW is moving forward as part of the establishment, with documentation in respect of its accession to LGFA with a draft terms sheet in circulation. Documentation in relation to the accession will be provided to CDW to agree and approve during the course of June with the accession intended to complete mid-July.
- 5.12 As a condition of CDW's accession to the LGFA Multi-Issuer Deed, the Shareholding Councils will be required to acknowledge accession deeds under which CDW accedes to the LGFA Multi-Issuer Deed and Notes Subscription Agreement.
- 5.13 The Multi-Issuer Deed regulates the LGFA borrowing programme, and contains the core borrowing terms, including standard representations, undertakings and events of default for each of Councils and CCOs.

- 5.14 The Notes Subscription Agreement governs the “borrower notes” to be issued when borrowing from LGFA. These notes convert to equity in the case of LGFA financial distress. As only local authorities (and the Crown) may be shareholders in LGFA, all borrower notes held by CDW would be automatically transferred to the Shareholding Councils on conversion, and the LGFA documents do not prescribe any consideration for the transfer.
- 5.15 Council is already a party to both the Multi-Issuer Deed and the Notes Subscription Agreement in its capacity as a borrower under the LGFA borrowing programme.
- 5.16 We expect the accession deeds will be presented to CDW and the Shareholding Councils in substantially the same form as the accession deeds scheduled to the LGFA Multi-Issuer Deed and Notes Subscription Agreement (that the Council is already party to as part of its own accession to the LGFA borrowing programme).
- 5.17 We expect Council will be asked to approve and/or delegate approval of the Accession Deeds and any other LGFA accession or external financier documentation at its next meeting.

## **6. Financial Implications**

- 6.1 The financial impacts of the recommendations have been highlighted within the report.

## **7. Impact on Strategic Risks**

- 7.1 The risk is in any one Council making a different decision to the other two councils, which would require further work to resolve. The report recommendations are consistent across all three councils and those already approved by the CDW Board, in order to achieve strategic alignment as discussed below.

## **8. Strategic Alignment**

- 8.1 The transfer of waters debt from the Rangitikei District Council and the other two shareholding Councils to CDW is a key part of the transfer agreement work, within the wider establishment programme for CDW, and as an essential element preceding the transfer of strategic assets.

## **9. Mana Whenua Implications**

- 9.1 Specific Mana Whenua views in establishing CDW are represented per Nga Tapūwae o Hau nominated and endorsed representatives on the Shareholders’ Committee. The decision Rangitikei District Council does not directly impact Mana Whenua as separate from the rest of the community. No specific engagement with Māori or Mana Whenua has been undertaken by Rangitikei District Council in relation to this report.

## **10. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration**

- 10.1 Not applicable to this report in respect of the matters and options to be considered.

## **11. Significance**

- 11.1 The agreement for the transfer, including the value, of waters debt from Rangitikei District Council to CDW through the transfer agreement, would be classified as a significant decision intended to come to Council for approval in December 2026.
- 11.2 The principles and method of debt transfer (i.e. this matter) is not considered significant.

11.3 The approach to guarantees has already been approved as part of the Shareholders' Agreement with Central Districts Water and the Shareholding Councils.

**12. Conclusion**

12.1 This is an important and necessary procedural matter in the establishment of CDW.

**13. Decision Making Process**

13.1 This decision requires Council approval.

13.2 Council approval of items 4.7 (guarantees) above requires Council to delegate authority to finalise, agree and execute the related documents presented to Council.

**Recommendation 1**

That the Report Central District Water – Debt Transfer be received.

**Recommendation 2**

That Council approves the guiding principles for the water debt transfer from Council to Central Districts Water as part of the preparation of the transfer agreement.

Fairness and equity

Transparent documentation

Sustainability and flexibility

Clarity and simplicity

**Recommendation 3**

That Council notes that the guiding principles for the water debt transfer were approved by the Central Districts Water Board on 29 May 2026.

**Recommendation 4**

That Council approve the use of novation as the water debt transfer method from each Shareholding Council to Central Districts Water.

**Recommendation 5**

That Council notes that novation as the water debt transfer method was approved by the CDW Board on 29 May 2026 and the same approval will be requested from each other Shareholding Council by the end of June 2026

**Recommendation 6**

That Council approves provision of the following guarantees in support of debt facilities to be entered into by CDW:

a bilateral joint and several guarantee from each Shareholding Council in favour of LGFA (**LGFA Guarantee**); and

a separate guarantee in favour of approved financiers (other than LGFA) who participate in CDW's financing from time to time (**Global Guarantee**),

subject to:

the final funding structure and LGFA Guarantee and Global Guarantee (together the **Guarantees**) documentation being satisfactory to Council;  
approval of the Guarantees by each other Shareholding Council; and  
compliance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and all other applicable legislation.

**Recommendation 7**

That Council delegates agreement and final approval of the Guarantees to the Chief Executive.

**Recommendation 8**

That Council notes that the approval for the provision of the deed of support to be provided by the Shareholding Councils in favour of CDW in order to ensure CDW can meet its obligations in relation to any pre-establishment funding (Deed of Support), will be included in a paper to Councils to approve on 25 June 2026.

**Recommendation 9**

That Council approve the execution of the LGFA Guarantee and Global Guarantee, and all such other ancillary documentation as required in relation to the implementation of the Guarantees, on behalf of Council by:

in the case of deeds including the Guarantees and Deed of Support, two elected members; and

in the case of any other documents, the Chief Executive and Mayor.

## 11 Minutes from Committees

### 11.1 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. ERWS – 03 Mar 26 (under separate cover)
2. AIN – 02 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
3. F/P – 02 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
4. HCC – 08 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
5. TRAK – 14 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
6. RCB – 14 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
7. TCB – 15 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
8. MCC – 15 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
9. TCC – 16 Apr 26 (under separate cover)
10. Y/C – 11 May 26 (under separate cover)
11. TRAK – 19 May 26 (under separate cover)

#### Recommendation

That the following minutes are received:

- Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Committee Meeting – 03 March 26
- Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting – 02 April 26
- Finance/Performance Committee Meeting – 02 April 26
- Hunterville Community Committee Meeting – 08 April 26
- Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti Meeting – 14 April 26
- Ratana Community Board Meeting – 14 April 26
- Taihape Community Board Meeting – 15 April 26
- Marton Community Committee Meeting – 15 April 26
- Turakina Community Committee Meeting – 16 April 26
- Youth Council Meeting -11 May 26
- Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti Meeting – 19 May 26

## 12 Recommendations from Committees

### 12.1 Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā

**Author:** Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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

#### 1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 At the Te Rōpū Ahi Kā meeting held on the 19 May 2026 the Komiti discussed two applications to the Marae Development Fund and agreed to recommend funding for applications from Ōpaea Marae and Moawhango Marae.

**Resolved minute number** 26/IWI/001

*That Te Rōpū Ahi Kā recommends to Council that the Marae Development funding for the 2025/26 financial year is allocated as follows:*

- Ōpaea Marae \$8,446
- Moawhango Marae \$8,000

*Dr H Gifford/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried*

- 1.2 This recommendation is now provided to Council for their consideration.

#### **Recommendation 1**

That the report recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā be received.

#### **Recommendation 2**

That Council agree with the Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and approves allocation of funding of \$8,446 to Ōpaea Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

#### **Recommendation 3**

That Council agree with the Recommendation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and approves allocation of funding of \$8,000 to Moawhango Marae from the Marae Development Fund.

## 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. Confirmation of minutes – 09 April 2026
2. Follow up action items
3. Contract 1153 Taihape Watermain Renewal – Contract Value extension

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
<b>13.1 - Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings</b>	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)
<b>13.2 Confirmation of Minutes – 09 April 2026</b>	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 9 April meeting.	s48(1)(a)
<b>13.3 - Contract 1153 Taihape Watermain Renewal - Contract Value Extension</b>	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations and privacy. s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)

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

## **14 Open Meeting**