ORDER PAPER

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date:	**Thursday, 3 September 2026**
Time:	**10.00am**
Venue:	**Council Chamber** **Rangitīkei District Council** **46 High Street** **Marton**

Chair:	HWTM Andy Watson
Deputy Chair:	Cr Dave Wilson
Membership:	Cr Diana Baird Cr Alan Buckendahl Cr Fi Dalgety Cr Sandra Field Cr John Hainsworth Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa Cr Graeme O'Fee Cr Coral Raukawa Cr Paul Sharland Cr Jeff Wong

For any enquiries regarding this agenda, please contact:

Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 4403), or via email petra.fleming@rangitikei.govt.nz

Contact:	0800 422 522 (06) 327 0099	info@rangitikei.govt.nz	www.rangitikei.govt.nz
Locations:	Marton Head Office 46 High Street Marton	Taihape Taihape Information Centre 102 Hautapu Street (SH1) Taihape	Bulls Bulls Information Centre Te Matapihi 4 Criterion Street Bulls
Postal Address:	Private Bag 1102, Marton 4741		
Fax:	(06) 327 6970		

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, 3 September 2026 at 10.00am.

Order Of Business

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: **Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor**

1. Reason for Report

1.1 There was a formatting error with the minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026 confirmed on 13 August 2026, meaning that the Resolved minute number 26/RDC/181 was not included in the confirmed minutes.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/181

That Council approves that either a sole independent commissioner or up to three (3) independent commissioners be appointed to the Hearing Panel for Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth and delegates the Chief Executive and Mayor to determine those appointments.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

1.2 The minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026 are attached for reconfirmation.

1.3 The minutes from Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 August 2026 are attached.

Attachments

1. **Ordinary Council Meeting - 13 August 2026**
2. **Ordinary Council Meeting - 30 July 2026**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026, as amended, be reconfirmed as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, noting the inclusion of resolved minute number 26/RDC/181, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Recommendation

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 August 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

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date:	**Thursday, 13 August 2026**
Time:	**10.00am**
Venue:	**Council Chamber Rangitīkei District Council 46 High Street Marton**

Present	HWTM Andy Watson Cr Diana Baird Cr Alan Buckendahl Cr Fi Dalgety Cr Sandra Field Cr Coral Raukawa Cr Graeme O'Fee Cr Dave Wilson Cr Jeff Wong
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, Roading Transport Manager Ms Kezia Spence, Policy Analyst Ms Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor Mr Brent Holmes, Asset Manager – Downer Mr Craig Pocock, Design Environment NZ

Order of Business

1 Welcome / Prayer

The meeting opened at 10.00am and His Worship the Mayor read the Council Prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/207

That the apologies from Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Cr Paul Sharland and Cr John Hainsworth be received.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr S Field. Carried

3 Public Forum

Danelle Whakatihi spoke to the Bulls Domain Masterplan as the Captain of the Bulls Domain Netball Club. She advocated that the Bulls Domain be considered by Council as the most important place of interest in the plan. Ms Whakatihi raised specific concerns regarding the need for upgrading the netball courts, playground and ablution blocks, not only for the Club but also for residents, visitors and events hosted at the Domain. She highlighted the Club is currently seeking independent funding and is open to collaboration with Council, and acknowledged the work that has been done at the Domain by Council Officers since the report was published.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

His Worship the Mayor returned to Item 8.1 Mayor's Report at 11.44am to table the reports on LGNZ Rural and Provincial August 26 Meeting from Cr Diana Baird and Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/208

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr D Baird. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/209

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

Cr F Dalgety/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

8 Mayor’s Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - August 2026

His Worship the Mayor took the report as read and noted that his voting for the LGNZ Remits was according to Council’s resolution.

The meeting returned to this item at 11.44am and the LGNZ Rural and Provincial August 26 Meeting attendee reports from Councillor Baird and Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson were tabled.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/210

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

HWTM/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/211

That the attendee reports from Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson and Cr Diana Baird for the LGNZ Rural and Provincial August 2026 Meeting be received.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

9 Chief Executive’s Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - August 2026

Mrs Gordon took Council through each section of the report.

<u>Central Districts Water</u>

Mrs Gordon Highlighted the work happening behind the scenes for Central Districts Water to begin operations on 1 July 2027.

Councillors enquired regarding the timeline of Rural Water Schemes. Mrs Gordon clarified that Rural Water Schemes will be working through the issues before a decision is made by Council by the end of the year.

Annual Dog Control Report 2025/26

Elected members discussed the issue of missing dogs. Mrs Gordon and Mr Cullis advised that it is always best to follow the advice regarding lost dogs as supplied on the Council website.

His Worship the Mayor enquired to the relevance of the LGNZ Remit passed that is seeking expanded powers in terms of animal control to this Report. Officers advised of Council Officers' involvements in this remit and that its intent is to make sure the Dog Control Act 1996 is still fit for purpose, identifying and enhancing any gaps.

Annual Alcohol Report

Officers responded to questions about the Temporary Authority process.

Mana Whakahono ā Rohe

Councillors noted their support for continuing to build relationships with iwi in the Rangitīkei. Members noted the proposed changes in legislation, but noted that this work is still important.

Electoral System Option

Elected members chose not to make a decision on the electoral system option, but noted that this information was considered.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/212

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

Cr S Field/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/213

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

Cr S Field/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/214

That the report 'Annual Report to the Alcohol and Regulatory Licensing Authority for the year ending 30 June 2025' be received.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/215

That Council actively continues developing Mana Whakahono ā Rohe Agreements (and any subsequent agreements) with iwi, noting the importance of the relationship between iwi and Council.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried. Unanimous

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/216

That Council notes that the Electoral System Option was considered by Council at the 13 August 2026 meeting.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 2027/30 National Land Transport Programme Submission

Mr Black and Mr Holmes spoke to the report, clarifying the road condition evaluation process and its role in supplying the evidence for the recommendations included in the report.

Councillors raised concerns regarding the misalignment of the deadlines for submissions for the National Land Transport Programme and adoption of Long Term Plans. Mrs Gordon advised that Council Officers will continue to advocate for these dates to be aligned in the future and that this is a national issue.

Cr Wong left during this item at 11.01am and returned at 11.03am.

His Worship the Mayor raised concern that the 'optimal' option is more of a realistic status-quo position that will allow the necessary work to be completed to maintain standard operation within the District's roading network and that anything less would lead to rapid deterioration.

Cr Wong left during this item at 11.16am and returned at 11.19am.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/217

That the report 2027/30 National Land Transport Programme Submission is received.

.Cr F Dalgety/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/218

That Council adopts the Draft Roading Activity Management Plan 2027-2030.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/219

That Council agrees that:

(a) Programme One – Optimal

is Council's preferred Maintenance, Operations and Renewals programme for the 2027-30 National Land Transport Programme submission and that the Draft Roading Activity Management Plan 2027-2030 be amended to reflect this.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/220

That Council agrees that:

$4 million per annum

is Council's preferred Low-Cost Low-Risk investment option for the 2027-30 National Land Transport Programme submission.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/221

That the Draft Roading Activity Management Plan 2027-2030 and Programme Business Case (including Council's preferred Maintenance, Operations and Renewals programme) be submitted to New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi for consideration and that Council gives the Chief Executive authority to make minor editorial and formatting changes to the document prior to its submission.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

10.2 Bulls Domain Master Plan

Mr Pocock provided a presentation on the Bulls Open Spaces Strategy, highlighting the extensive community consultation which it was informed by. He reinforced the Masterplan as a tool to inform future Council plans and decisions around the parks and spaces within the report as well as to support community members and groups seeking external funding and investment.

Elected Members queried the upgrade of the utilities building at the Bulls Domain. Mr Pocock clarified that this is one of the most urgent items within the plan to facilitate and activate community events and engagement, and would be best to be a standalone refurbishment.

Elected Members emphasised the potential for partnership and collaboration between Council and the Bulls Community.

Elected Members discussed including additional information into the Bulls Open Spaces Strategy and Bulls Domain Master Plan in relation to the matters raised at the public forum. The information throughout the Plan represents a point in time, therefore, it was noted that an addendum or footnote might be appropriate.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/222

That the report 'Bulls Domain Master Plan' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/223

That Council endorses the Bulls Open Spaces Strategy and Bulls Domain Master Plan.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/224

That Council notes minor amendments will be made to the Bulls Open Spaces Strategy and Bulls Domain Master Plan to include updated information raised in the public forum by Ms Danelle Whakatihi.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

The meeting closed at 11.50am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 03 September 2026.

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Chairperson

MINUTES

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 30 July 2026

Time: 10:00 am

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitīkei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
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 (Zoom)
Cr Paul Sharland
Cr Jeff Wong

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 Darryn Black, Roading Transport Manager
Mr Warren Pedley, Manager Finance and Partnerships
Ms Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager
Ms Kezia Spence, Policy Analyst
Ms Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor

Order of Business

1 Welcome / Prayer

The meeting opened at 10.00am and Cr Sharland read the Council prayer.

2 Apologies

There were no apologies received.

3 Public Forum

Kyle Baird spoke about the resource consent process for his business and the challenges associated with obtaining consent, as advised by both Council's planners and his own planners. At this stage Mr Baird has not lodged a resource consent but advocated for Council to update the district plan.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/165

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 11 June 2026 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

HWTM/Cr P Sharland. Carried

That the duplication of the resolved minute number 26/RDC/143 be removed.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/166

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 June 2026 as amended be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

HWTM/Cr P Sharland. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/167

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

Cr P Sharland/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - July 2026

Councillors highlighted the LGNZ – Zone 3 reports and those that attended thanked Council for the opportunity to attend.

LGNZ Remits

Councillors discussed proposed remits for LGNZ conference and ranked the level of support for each of these remits.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/168

That the Mayor's Report – July 2026 be received.

HWTM/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/169

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 1 – Priorities for Dog Control Act Reform for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/170

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 2 – Improved Regulation of Vape Retailers for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/171

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 3 – Financial Support for Government Reform Implementation Costs for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/172

Council does support Remit 4 – Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government Reform for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/173

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 5 – Devolution of Place-Naming Authority to Territorial Authorities for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/174

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 6 – Enhanced role for Government in supporting subnational diplomacy for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr D Wilson/Cr C Raukawa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/175

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 7 – Bulk Funding of Transport Authorities for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr S Field. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/176

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 8 – Improving LTP Audit Requirements for the 2026 LGNZ AGM.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/177

That Rangitīkei District Council does support Remit 9 – A Fairer Approach to Uneconomic Transport Infrastructure Funding for the 2026 LGNZ AGM

HWTM/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/178

That Council rank in prioritisation as listed below:

- Remit 9 – A Fairer Approach to Uneconomic Transport Infrastructure Funding
- Remit 3 – Financial Support for Government Reform Implementation Costs
- Remit 8 – Improving LTP Audit Requirements
- Remit 7 – Bulk Funding of Transport Authorities

- Remit 4 – Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government Reform
- Remit 1 – Priorities for Dog Control Act Reform
- Remit 5 – Devolution of Place-Naming Authority to Territorial Authorities
- Remit 2 – Improved Regulation of Vape Retailers
- Remit 6 – Enhanced role for Government in supporting subnational diplomacy

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/179

That Council does delegate His Worship the Mayor to finalise and sign the 2026 Statement of Intent between the New Zealand Defence Force and Palmerston North City Council, Manawatū District Council, Rangitīkei District Council and Ruapehu District Council.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - July 2026

Approval to appoint one or more independent hearings commissioners for Proposed Plan Change 3 and delegate appropriate functions to them

Councillors discussed the approach taken by other councils and Ms Gower highlighted that it varies across councils and she described the process that would be undertaken.

Councillors discussed concerns about delegating this responsibility. His Worship the Mayor noted that, given the complexity of the Hearings Commissioner certification process, delegation was a responsible and practical approach.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/180

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

Cr P Sharland/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/181

That Council approves that either a sole independent commissioner or up to three (3) independent commissioners be appointed to the Hearing Panel for Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth and delegates the Chief Executive and Mayor to determine those appointments.

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/182

That Council delegates to the independent hearings commissioner or hearings panel all necessary powers, duties and functions under the Resource Management Act 1991 to consider, hear, deliberate and decide on all submissions and further submissions received on Proposed Plan Change 3 to the Operative Rangitīkei District Plan.

HWTM/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/183

That Council approves the reinstatement of the Taihape untreated water charge of $1.88 per m³ in Council's Fees and Charges 2026/27.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Simplifying Local Government - Head Start Pathway

The Mayor highlighted the value of Central Districts Waters relationships and Council's interest in continuing conversations with these councils about amalgamation. The Mayor noted this could be highlighted in a letter to the Minister that goes alongside the Memorandum of Understanding and joint letter.

Councillors noted that Ruapehu, Manawatū and Tararua District Council have opted out of the Head Start pathway and instead have endorsed signing the joint letter and Memorandum of Understanding as a proactive approach to reform. There are still councils in the region to hold meetings and make a decision on which approach to take.

Councillors highlighted that there has been limited amount of time but that this has been a priority with significant work undertaken and discussion held between councillors, chief executives, and the mayors in the region.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/184

That the report Simplifying Local Government - Head Start Pathway be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/185

That Council does not submit an outline proposal under the Government's Head Start pathway for local government reform.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Hiroa. Carried Unanimous

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/186

That Council authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive to continue exploring local government reform models outside the Head Start pathway that seek to achieve the Government's objectives while retaining local representation, local decision-making and local accountability, including working collaboratively with other councils where appropriate.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G O'Fee. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/187

That Council authorises His Worship the Mayor to communicate Council's position to the Minister of Local Government and the Ministry of Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport - outlining Council's willingness to take an active role in Local Government reform and intent to work collaboratively with other councils (as required).

Cr P Sharland/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/188

Authorises His Worship the Mayor to finalise and sign a joint letter and/or memorandum of understanding with other councils in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region to the Minister of Local Government, noting Council's willingness to take an active role in local government reform and intent to work collaboratively with other councils.

Cr A Buckendahl/Cr P Hiroa. Carried

11 Reports for Information

11.1 Finance Snapshot - June 2026

Cr Wilson left at 11.35am and returned at 11.38am.

Officers advised that this is interim reporting for the end of the financial year.

Councillors questioned the Better Off Funding – Taihape Town Hall and officers responded that due to being behind schedule, that this meant the funding we expected to see claimed has not occurred. The funds for the project are still available and will be claimed at the time of each appropriate stage of the project.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/189

That Council receive the Finance Snapshot June – 2026 Report

Cr F Dalgety/Cr D Baird. Carried

12 Minutes from Committees

12.1 Minutes from Committees

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/190

That the following minutes are received:

- Policy/Planning Committee – 12 March 2026
- Hunterville Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee Meeting – 13 April 2026
- Bulls Community Committee – 22 April 2026
- Community Grants Committee – 29 April 2026
- Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund Committee – 30 April 2026
- Creative NZ Community Committee – 20 May 2026
- Assets/Infrastructure Committee – 28 May 2026
- Risk/Assurance Committee – 28 May 2026
- Finance/Performance Committee – 28 May 2026
- Hunterville Community Committee Meeting – 03 June 2026
- Hunterville Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee Meeting – 08 June 2026
- Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti Meeting – 09 June 2026
- Erewhon Rural Water Supply Management Sub-Committee Meeting – 08 June 2026
- Rātana Community Board Meeting – 09 June 2026
- Taihape Community Board Meeting – 10 June 2026
- Marton Community Committee Meeting – 10 June 2026
- Turakina Community Committee Meeting – 11 June 2026
- Bulls Community Committee Meeting – 17 June 2026
- Santoft Domain Management Committee Meeting – 08 July 2026

Cr P Sharland/Cr D Baird. Carried

13 Recommendations from Committees

13.1 Recommendations from Community Committees and the Taihape Community Board - Small Projects Fund and the Community Grants Committee

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/191

That the report Recommendations from Community Committees and the Taihape Community Board - Small Projects Fund and the Community Grants Committee be received.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr D Baird. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/192

That Council approves carry-forward of $494.72 for the Turakina Community Committee for the 2026/27 financial year, noting that there are earmarked funds.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/193

That Council approves carry-forward of $1176.00 for the Taihape Community Board for the 2026/27 financial year.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/194

That Council approves carry-forward of up $1,363.47 for the Bulls Community Committee for the 2026/27 financial year, noting that there are earmarked funds.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/195

That Council approves carry-forward of up to $2276.00 for the Hunterville Community Committee for the 2026/27 financial year.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/196

That Council approves carry forward of $3,717.70 for the Community Initiatives Fund for the 2026/27 financial year.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/197

That Council approves carry forward of $1,620 from the Event Support Scheme for the 2026/27 financial year.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Hainsworth. Carried

13.2 Recommendation from Hunterville Community Committee

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/198

That the report recommendation from Hunterville Community Committee be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr S Field. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/199

That Council receives the recommendation from the Hunterville Community Committee regarding the Hunterville Swimming Pool's Certificate of Fitness and notes the actions taken by officers.

Cr S Field/Cr A Buckendahl. Carried

14 Public Excluded

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11.52am.

Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/200

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

1 Public Excluded Council Meeting – 11 June 2026 and 25 June 2026
2. Sale of 304-318 Broaway, Marton
3. Recommendation from Chief Executive Performance Committee

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

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
14.1 - Public Excluded Council Meeting – 11 June 2026 and 25 June 2026	To consider the minutes relating to matters that were the subject of discussion at the 11 June and 25 June meeting.	S48(1)(a)
14.2 - Sale of 304-318 Broaway, Marton	To enable commercially sensitive information to be discussed without impacting any negotiations. s7(2)(b)(ii) - Commercial Position s7(2)(h) - Commercial Activities	s48(1)(a)(i)

	s7(2)(i) - Negotiations	
14.3 - Recommendation from Chief Executive Performance Committee	To consider matters of employment and to protect privacy. s7(2)(a) - Privacy	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.

Cr P Hiroa/Cr S Field. Carried

15 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 12.13pm

Resolved minute number 26/RDC/207

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

22/RDC/201 - 22/RDC/206

HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

The meeting closed at 12.13pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 13 August 2026.

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Chairperson

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Author: **Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor**

1. Reason for Report

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

2. Decision Making Process

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

Attachments:

1. Follow-up Actions Register

Recommendation

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

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	27-Aug-26	Request that Council to consider delegations to committees for all Council committees	Katrina	This was requested at the 27 August 2026 Assets/Infrastructure Committee. Staff will work with HWTM regarding a process for this to be considered.	Not started
2	30-Jul-26	Include further information on the types of roles and turnover when providing the commentary about the exit review summary to Risk/Assurance Committee.	Leanne	Provided to Risk/Assurance Committee on 27 August 2026	Complete
3	21-May-26	Memorandum of Understanding follow up discussion with Councillors the Bulls Community and District Trust	Katrina	A review will be completed for the 2027 LTP.	In progress

8 Mayor's Report

8.1 Mayor's Report - September 2026

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

Good morning

Well, we are now in what is becoming a pattern - another week, another announcement by Government. This time it is the Government announcements on rates pegging, which can be summarised as follows –

1. Councils will be required to keep annual rates rises between a range of 2-4% per annum.
2. Councils will need to consider that range from July 1 2027 (Long Term Plans) but will come into full effect from 1 July 2029.
3. There will be exemptions to deal with –
   a) Significant weather/civil defence events;
   b) Water services will be exempt from the range, noting that Rangitīkei water services will be delivered separately by Central Districts Water by 2029.
   c) There are other possible exemptions but the bar is very high.

This was not unexpected. Government had been signalling this direction for some time, politically it is a popular pre-election policy. I understand our ratepayers are struggling with both the increasing cost of living and rates.

Councils will of course comply with the legislation, it will be law. However, it comes at a cost. Like everyone, Council faces huge cost increases - for example the cost of HDPE piping and asphalt bitumen as reported by Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson, Chair of the Assets/Infrastructure Committee, has increased by 40%. We like everyone else will be challenged by this legislation. We have two key sources of income - a) rates and b) charges for services such as regulatory costs, sports fields and facilities.

To get down to a 2-4% increase we will need to either increase charges, cut services or defer maintenance. Roading is vital in the Rangitīkei and without maintenance the local economy will be hugely affected. The cost to restore damaged roads vastly exceeds the cost of preventative maintenance. Council has recently decided to put in its proposal to NZTA that maintains existing service levels - that alone will increase rates by up to 4% without any other cost increases from the other sectors.

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) has spent considerable effort in understanding the effects of rate capping in Australia -

a) In NSW, rates capping resulted in a maintenance shortfall of $200m across 61 councils in just one year.
b) In Victoria, rates capping lead to a reduction in GDP of up to $890m.
c) Rates capping leads to very high rate increases as catchups when capping is lifted.

Long Term Plan (LTP)

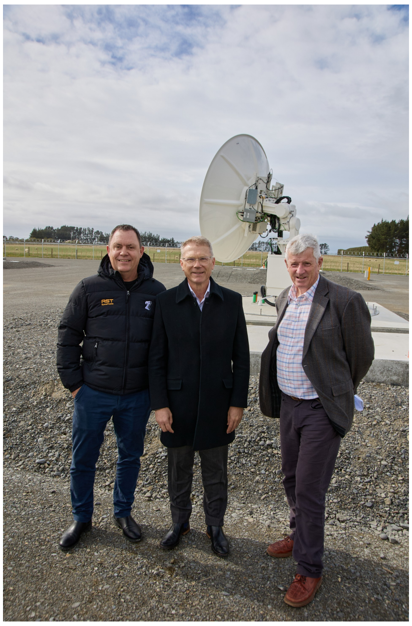
The LTP work is in full swing and will certainly be the key document in how we fund our district, the services we provide and effectively who pays. We also face the future of Government directed amalgamation of councils and we will wait on Government legislation early next year which should provide some guidance in this space.

Otara Bridge

The Otara Bridge crosses the Rangitīkei River just north of Ohingaiti and is the primary access for many farms in that area of the Manawatū. On 18 August Council received reports of structural damage that resulted in immediate weight restrictions of 6 tonnes and 10km/hr being imposed. Unfortunately, this is a repeat of damage that occurred in 2023 resulting in a drawn out period of reduced access. Repairs at that time were in excess of $600k split between Manawatu, Rangitīkei and NZTA. We await an engineering report before decisions are made around future repairs. I understand it is incredibly frustrating for the communities and we must learn the message from the past event to be clear in our reporting to communities and the need for a long term repair completed in a timely manner.

2degrees Satellite

This week I attended the opening of the 2degrees satellite ground station on Wings Line Marton. I include a photo illustrating the satellite tracking equipment. This site, I have been told, is the first commercial site operating in New Zealand and possibly the world and we were chosen as the preferred site from 40 national possibilities. The site and technology allow customers with 4G and 5G smartphones to have voice and data coverage via satellite from poor coverage areas at high speed. The opening was attended by Minister Paul Goldsmith who said that New Zealand has an international reputation in high technology fields. Certainly the technology looked impressive and I congratulate Tim and Daniel Whale for their partnership with 2degrees.



Capex

Delivering on capex programmes has historically been a challenge for the Rangitīkei. On Monday there will be a “sod turning” official opening of the construction site for the new Civil Defence building in Marton and I am also thrilled to see the progress on the Marton Pool. This year should also see construction commence on the Taihape Town Hall and the Taihape Grandstand repair work is showing progress under past Councillor Gill Duncan as the local lead. It will be great to see these projects, years in the making, actually being delivered.

Waitatapia Wear-a-Bull Arts

Last Thursday I attended the Wear-a-Bull Arts extravaganza in Bulls. Huge congratulations to the Trust for organising the event as well as all the entrants. The designs/wear-a-bull/recycla-bull outfits were incredible. The Hall was packed and the night was a huge success.

I opened this report by saying each week we as a Local Government are hit with a new challenge. I know that the FAR (Financial Assistance Rates) for roading) is due for review. This is effectively the Government's contribution rate to our roading costs. That review makes me nervous, roading is our biggest cost and NZTA is struggling to afford their share. They, like us, are under huge financial pressure. The Rangitīkei has a FAR rate of 66% and any downgrade to that rate would be a disaster for us. Hopefully we have expressed our need that this doesn't happen.

Mayor's Engagements

August 2026

14	Attended monthly economic development meeting with staff
	Attended Central Districts Water Joint Shareholders Committee Meeting
	Attended online meeting with Zone 3 Co-ordinator re November Zone 3 sector meeting
	Attending meeting with Chief Executive
17	Attended Ngā Wai Tōtā Hui at Maungārongo Marae Ohakune
18	Attended LGNZ National Council online briefing Attended Ngā Wai Tōtā Hui at Maungārongo Marae Ohakune Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor Attended Facebook Headstart Q&A Livestream with staff
19	Attended monthly comms meeting with staff Attended discussion with CE Performance Committee Attended Bulls Community Committee Meeting Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters 2026 Forum President's Dinner
20	Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters 2026 Forum Panel Discussion Attended Council Workshop Attended NZ Trade & Industrial Waters 2026 Forum Conference Awards
21	Attended Regional Relationship Meeting with NZTA
24	Attended St John First Aid Course Attended Youth Council Workshop
25	Attended tri-weekly online meeting with Central Districts Water Shareholders Committee Chair Attended Regional Transport Matters | Regional Chiefs fortnightly online meeting Attended discussion with CE Performance Committee Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
26	Attended meeting with Acting Chief Executive

	Attended 2 Degrees Marton Ground Station Official Opening Attended Taihape Grandstand Restoration Group meeting
27	Attended Assets/Infrastructure Committee Meeting Attended Risk/Assurance Workshop Attended Risk/Assurance Meeting Attended Finance/Performance Committee Meeting Attended Waitatapia Wear-A-Bull Arts Awards
28	Attended Accelerate35 Lead Team meeting Attended Central Districts Water Project Oversight Group in-person meeting
29	Attended Bulls Junior Rugby Tournament at Bulls Domain
31	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended sod turning ceremony for Emergency Operations Centre

September 2026

1	Attended Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee in-person meeting Attended Regional Transport Committee in-person meeting Attended Erewhon Rural Water Scheme Meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
2	Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with TUIA rangatahi
3	To attend LGNZ online briefing: Pre-Election Advocacy To attend Council Meeting To attend Policy/Planning Committee Meeting

Attachments:

1. **LGNZ Four Monthly Report to July 2026 (under separate cover)**

Recommendation

That the report Mayor's Report – September 2026 be received.

9 Chief Executive's Report

9.1 Chief Executive's Report - September 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 Rangitīkei District during August 2026:

- 12th May – 25th August 2026: T.A.S Taihape Area School Senior Boys Rugby Training Combination of Rangitīkei College & Ruapehu College - Field 1, Memorial Park, Taihape.
- 12th July 2026: Manawatū Mountain Bike Club - Winter cross country MTB Series - Tūtaenui Reservoir, Marton.
- 26th July 2026: Rangitīkei Netball Association - Junior Netball Tournament for Player Development - Netball Complex/Courts, Centennial Park, Marton.
- 25th July 2026: Northern Whanganui Rugby Football Union - Taihape Vs Whanganui Rugby game - Field 1, Taihape Memorial Park.

3. Staff Movements in August

3.1 In August, Council welcomed the following new employees welcomed into RDC:

- Sarahanne Guy – Casual Cleaner
- Tania Climo – Casual Cleaner
- Matthew Potaka – Cleaner
- Penny Pickford – Cleaner
- Manu San Roman – Community Engagement Officer Venue and Events
- Aron Bremner – Economic Advisor

3.2 In August we farewelled the following employee(s) from RDC:

- Marlene Sleep – Cleaner
- John Sleep – Cleaner
- Julie Perkins - Finance Officer Payable

4. Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard

4.1 The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Dashboard for August 2026 will be provided next month (in the October 2026 report).

5. Submissions

5.1 The updated list of current opportunities for Council to submit on consultations run by external agencies is attached (Attachment 1).

5.2 Consultations submitted on:

Since the previous Council meeting, Council has made a submission on two consultations run by New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi; changes to modernise services delivered by the New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi, as well as the targeted speed limit review in the Horizons region. Two of the areas that were proposed for speed limit changes are along SH1, South of Taihape.

5.3 These submissions, along with all other submissions Council has previously made can be found on Council's website.

6. Central Districts Water (CDW) Updates

6.1 This regular update provides progress on work on LWDW.

6.2 The three phases of the Establishment Plan are:

i. Phase 1: Legal establishment of the entity – by 1 July 2026

ii. Phase 2: Operational establishment – by 1 July 2027

iii. Phase 3: Operational – from 1 July 2027

6.3 Progress to date on Phase 2 includes:

6.3.1 Central Districts Water (CDW) Chris Dyhrberg commenced as Chief Executive on 3 August 2026. CDW organisational structure yet to be confirmed. Staff transfer principles and process being worked on by CDW with Council chief executives.

6.3.2 CDW Board meeting monthly - public meeting records here: https://www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz/Meetings

6.3.3 For further CDW announcements go to: www.centraldistrictswater.co.nz

6.3.4 Statement of Expectations adopted by Shareholder Committee on 14 August 2026.

6.3.5 Establishment planning by the CDW establishment team workplans is ongoing. Customer lead appointed (Lisa Campbell, HDC).

6.3.6 Monthly establishment workshops to consolidate and integrate workstream progress (held 17 August; next one 21 September). Consolidated capital budgets received from councils for CDW review and prioritisation. Digital work underway.

6.3.7 CDW Significance & Engagement Policy (SEP) draft by CDW with Shareholder Committee for review

6.3.8 Water Service Strategy (WSS) work commenced, led by Helen Churton for CDW.

6.3.9 Rural Water Schemes (RWS). Workshop with Council and RWS Chairs held 30 July. Summary notes future decision needed by council and schemes on options.

6.3.10 Populating of Transfer Agreement schedules: workshop held with Council on 20 August to provide update. Work continues by officers, noting initial draft due September (to be confirmed under delegation by the Council chief executives). CDW intends to share the collated Transfer Agreement schedules with Ngā Tapūwae o Hau for their review.

6.3.11 Transfer Agreement Matters of Shared Interest (for RDC) to be followed up by staff with CDW and seek legal advice as required/if necessary (jointly if common to all 3 councils).

6.3.12 RDC visit (to 3 waters sites) intended by CDW Board in September.

6.4 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. **Complete.**

6.4.3 Financing arrangements – agreed to by mid 2026. Debt principles **agreed.**

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

7. Financial Implications

7.1 There are no identified financial implications associated with this report.

8. Impact on Strategic Risks

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

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

9. Strategic Alignment

9.1 There are no strategic alignment impacts identified.

10. Mana Whenua Implications

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

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

11. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

12. Statutory Implications

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

13. Decision Making Process

13.1 There are no decisions required.

Attachments:

1. Current and Upcoming Submissions - September 2026 ⇩

Recommendation 1

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

Current and Upcoming Consultations

Name of Initiative	Agency Engaging	Due Date	Description	Proposed RDC Action
Currently Open for Submissions				
Feedback sought on National Engineering Design Standards framework	Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai	11 September	The National Engineering Design Standards (NEDS) will provide a nationally consistent approach to building and upgrading water supply, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure. The standards will apply across the entire lifecycle of water infrastructure. Feedback is sought on the shape of the overall framework, and areas to prioritise where the standards and codes will add most value.	None
Consultation on options to improve the efficiency of electricity distribution businesses	Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment	30 September	MBIE is seeking feedback on options to improve the efficiency of electricity distribution businesses and how they can better support New Zealand's future electricity needs.	None
Building Amendment Bill	Parliament Transport and Infrastructure Committee	15 November	Changes proposed in the Bill include: introduction of proportionate liability, facilitating councils combining their BCA functions, replacing the Building Research Levy with a contestable funding mechanism overseen by MBIE, and reduced processing time for PIMs.	Reviewing
Stormwater Engagement Paper	Water Services Authority – Taumata Arowai	27 November	The paper outlines the challenges and opportunities facing the sector, explores approaches used internationally and sets out how the Authority plans to support improved stormwater network oversight and leadership. It tests three immediate priorities: improving national stormwater data, supporting stormwater risk management planning, and promoting infrastructure standardisation through National Engineering Design Standards.	Submit

10 Reports for Decision

10.1 Central Districts Water Ltd Exemption

Author: Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager - Corporate Services

Authoriser: Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager - Corporate Services

1. Reason for Report

1.1 This Report seeks Council to provide the granting of an exemption to Council's newly established water entity, Central Districts Water Limited (CDW), being a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) from certain administrative requirements.

1.2 This report seeks approval for this exemption for the period 01 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

2. Context

2.1 CDW is a registered New Zealand Limited company, incorporated 01 April 2026. CDW has three shareholders, being Palmerston North City Council (65%), Horowhenua District Council (25%) and Rangitīkei District Council (10%).

2.2 CDW is currently operational with the appointment of Board and Chief Executive, however during 2025/2026 CDW was not able to provide water services to any of the three council's districts as CDW will not be able to charges for water services until 01 July 2027. During 2025/26 CDW was in the process of establishing the company including appointing the Board, however all financial transactions were through the Shareholder Councils.

2.3 Part 5 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA2002) contains a wide range of obligations and requirements on CCOs.

2.4 However, S6(4)(i) LGA2002 and S7 LGA2002 allow a local authority, after consideration of certain matters, to grant an exemption to an organisation from being treated as a CCO.

2.5 The Companies Act 1993 also provides the opportunity for Central Districts Water to have the first reporting period as the 15-month period from 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2027, rather than requiring a report for the three months end 30 June 2026.

2.6 The matters to be considered are:

2.6.1 The nature and scope of activities provided by the organisation; and

2.6.2 The costs and benefits, if an exemption is granted, to the local authority, the CCO and the community.

2.7 When an exemption is granted, it must be reviewed within three years and can be revoked at any time.

2.8 Central Districts Water is not seeking an exemption for the 15-month reporting period ending 30 June 2027.

3. Discussion

3.1 CDW was set up as a CCO during 2025/2026, with the aim of being able to fully fund its functions and activities as of 01 July 2027, which is when the three-member Councils (Palmerston North City Council, Horowhenua District Council and Rangitikei District Council) transfer over all assets, liabilities and resourcing to carry out the provision of stormwater, drinking water and wastewater to the three districts.

3.2 Under LGA2002, with the establishment of CDW as a CCO there is now an obligation to meet the obligations in Part 5 of LGA2002, unless the three council agree by individual resolutions to grant CDW an exemption.

3.3 It is believed that accountability for the three-month period up 30 June 2026 was provided through the regular reports for the Shareholders' Committee and Board reporting.

4. Options Considered

4.1 The granting of the exemption that is the subject of this Report means that CDW is not required to comply with Part 5 LGA2002.

4.2 There would be significant additional costs if the CDW was required to meet all the obligations of a council-controlled organisation - through the preparation of a statement of intent, performance monitoring and six-monthly reporting to all member local authorities.

4.3 There is a considerable cost associated with this and as a result many councils (including HDC and RDC for MWLASS) have previously deemed this cost to be excessive, given the nature and scope of the limited activities provided by CDW (refer S2.4.1 above).

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There is no cost to Council to authorise an exemption, however, the cost of denying the exemption means these the CCO will need to incur additional costs in the preparation of statements mentioned in 4.2 above.

5.2 CDW can still report on financial progress against the agreed establishment budget along with reporting of expenditure against the three councils approved debt advancement. Reports are presented regularly to the Board and to the Shareholder committee which mitigates any financial risks during the exemption period.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 N/A as this is considered under the activities of each CCO.

7. Strategic Alignment

7.1 N/A as this has been considered as part of establishment process.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 N/A as this is considered under the CCO's legislative requirements.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

9.1 N/A as this is considered under the activities of each CCO.

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 An exemption is permitted under S6 and S7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

11. Conclusion

11.1 To ensure that the CCO can remain cost effective it is believed that it is in all member Council's best interest to exempt CDW for the 3 months from 01 April 2026 to 30 June 2026.

12. Decision Making Process

12.1 This decision is not considered to be significant.

Recommendation 1

That the report "Central Districts Water Ltd Exemption" be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council provide an exemption to Central District Waters Limited from being a Council Controlled Organisation granted under Section 7(5) of the Local Government Act 2002 for the period of 1 April 2026 to 30 June 2026, if it is needed.

10.2 Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy

Author: **Kezia Spence, Policy Analyst**

Authoriser: **Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager**

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the draft Control of Dogs Bylaw (the Bylaw) and draft Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy (the Policy) to the Council for consideration and approval for public consultation.

2. Context

2.1 Under the Dog Control Act 1996, all territorial authorities must have a dog control policy and an associated bylaw to give effect to that policy.

2.2 The purpose of the Bylaw is to give effect to the Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy by:

- Requiring owners to keep dogs under control in all public places
- Prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places
- Providing designated dog exercise and recreation areas
- Providing minimum standards for the accommodation and care of dogs
- Requiring dog owners to immediately remove dog faeces from public places or land not occupied by the owner
- Sets the level of enforcement for dogs that are a nuisance and the impounding of a dog in breach of the bylaw
- Sets the number of dogs at a residential address

2.3 Under the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA), a new Bylaw must be reviewed within five (5) years of being made, and then subsequently reviewed within ten (10) years after the date of any previous review. The Dog Control Bylaw 2016 is an amended version of the Dog Control Bylaw 2014 and 2004 versions. The Policy/Planning Committee received the Review of Council's Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy in March 2026, and therefore, the statutory review deadline was within 10 years of the last review.

2.4 A pre-engagement survey ran from 22 December 2025 through to 20 January 2026. A total of 23 submissions were received and have been used to inform the changes in both the Bylaw and Policy.

2.5 The Policy/Planning Committee (the Committee) received the review of Council’s Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy on the 12 March 2026. The Committee determined under section 155 of the Local Government Act 2002 that the Bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the problems of managing dogs in the Rangitīkei District, that officers provide amendments to the Bylaw and Policy, and that the date for review be moved to later in 2026.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

Discussion of general changes proposed to the Bylaw and Policy:

3.1 During the review of the Bylaw and Policy, the Local Government Minister released updated national Dog Control and Enforcement Guidelines and announced a review of the Dog Control Act 1996 with anticipated changes to the legislation to be implemented in 2027. Officers are aware of the upcoming changes to the legislation and acknowledged that this creates some uncertainty for the review of the Bylaw and Policy. However, based on what is currently known of the changes it is considered appropriate to continue with the review of the Bylaw and Policy at this time.

3.2 A key driver behind the legislative changes is increased public interest in roaming and uncontrolled dogs and attacks on people throughout the country.

3.3 Our pre-engagement survey also highlighted concerns from respondents with roaming, aggressive and uncontrolled dogs. Subsequently some wording in the Bylaw and Policy is proposed to be updated, however, as the analysis of Animal Control's customer service data (undertaken as part of the findings report earlier this year) did not identify a significant change in trends for roaming or uncontrolled dogs, the proposed changes are limited at this time. The comms team, as part of consultation, will highlight the need to report roaming, aggressive and uncontrolled dogs to Council.

3.4 The Policy/Planning Committee at the meeting on the 12 March highlighted the shared services arrangement with Manawatū District Council and the need to support enforcement for animal control officers by aligning the Bylaw and Policy. Officers have highlighted this arrangement in the Policy to support the transparency of the shared services arrangement. There are some minor amendments proposed to the Bylaw and Policy to align the shared services arrangement to make it easier to administer such as a kennel not to be located closer than 1.8 meters to any boundary of the premises, currently this is one meter. Noting that this change will also reduce potential nuisance by having a requirement to set kennels back from boundaries by a greater distance.

3.5 The pre-engagement noted the costs and the tiers for dog owners. The policy highlights shared services and contractual arrangements that Council has to support the costs of animal control in the district. There is a registration tier in the fees and charges, and the policy wording has been updated to better reflect this.

3.6 The pre-engagement highlighted concerns with the removal of faeces. This was included in the Bylaw and not the Policy and is now proposed to be included in both. Due to increased costs and demand on parks staff the Bylaw and Policy refer to owners having to carry a container/bag to remove faeces. The comms team, as part of consultation, will highlight this.

Discussion on Dog Exercise Areas:

3.7 Officers reviewed the prohibited areas specified in the Bylaw and Policy and determined that the term 'picnic areas' was too broad. It is therefore proposed to be removed from the prohibited areas section of the Bylaw and Policy.

3.8 The pre-engagement requested more walking and exercise areas in Hunterville. Officers have investigated this request and noted that Queens Park along State Highway 1 would be the most well-suited location. However, due to the proximity of State Highway 1 and the lack of adequate fencing it would not be an ideal location for off leash, but this will be promoted as an on-leash space through the maps included in the Bylaw.

3.9 During the review process, officers also identified that the current Taihape Domain dog exercise area was not fit for purpose due to the regular grazing of sheep in this space. These activities are not considered to be compatible. Therefore, it is recommended that this space is now reverted to on-leash area. Officers considered other locations in Taihape and identified Papakai Park as a potentially suitable on-leash dog space and this is proposed for inclusion in the Bylaw.

Consultation and Engagement Approach

3.10 Consultation will be open from Monday, 14 September 2026 and closes at 5pm on Friday, 16 October 2026. The Statement of Proposal which includes the proposed Bylaw and Policy will be made available on the Council's website. Hard copies will also be available at all community hubs.

3.11 A public notice prior to consultation will be provide through Council's website and the District Monitor.

3.12 All registered dog owners will be informed when consultation is open. The community boards and community committees will be made aware of the consultation.

3.13 Consultation will be supported by videos and social media content explaining key dog-control matters identified through pre-engagement. These will include matters such as reporting roaming dogs and the requirement for owners to remove and appropriately dispose of dog waste.

3.14 A Hearing is planned for November 2026, followed by deliberations on the submissions received. It is anticipated that the Policy/Planning Committee will recommend the final Bylaw and Policy to Council for adoption in December 2026 or early 2027.

Options

3.15 Option 1: That the Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy are adopted for consultation

3.16 This option is appropriate if the Council is satisfied that the draft Bylaw and Policy are ready to be consulted on. This option may also be appropriate if the Council seeks for minor changes to be made to the Bylaw and/or Policy before they are adopted for consultation.

3.17 A recommendation in line with this option has been included in this report for Council's consideration, as it reflects previous direction to officers.

3.18 Option 2: Request staff undertake further work or to pause to consider further announcements from government

3.19 This option is appropriate if Council seeks more significant changes to the Bylaw and/or Policy before they are adopted for consultation.

3.20 Or if Council is sufficiently concerned about anticipated legislative changes, it may choose to defer the review until next year.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report as bylaws, policies and consultation are accounted for within existing budgets.

4.2 Officers considered the financial implications and the pre-engagement requests for more fenced dog parks, fee adjustments for registration of dogs and the ongoing compliance and enforcement for animal control officers. While these matters have not been included in the updated Bylaw or Policy, this does not preclude Council from considering future changes or investment.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

5.1 Council's Bylaw and Policy need to be fit for purpose to ensure that officers have the right tools to be able to do their jobs effectively and mitigate the strategic risk of 'Regulatory effectiveness is questioned'.

5.2 The other strategic risk relevant to this process is 'changes to government legislation are transformational'. As outlined earlier in this report, the Government is looking to introduce changes which may impact Council's regulatory function in the dog control space. Officers have considered that changes that have been signalled and consider it is appropriate to continue with the review of our Bylaw and Policy at this time. However, it is acknowledged that there is a risk these changes will be more comprehensive and this could result in the Bylaw and Policy requiring further changes.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 The Bylaw and Policy align with the Social Wellbeing outcome and the Strategic Priority of 'working collaboratively to improvement community wellbeing' elements of Council's Strategic Framework.'

6.2 The provision of safe spaces for dogs and their owners to exercise together that does not negatively impact other members of the community, as well as promoting responsible dog ownership and public education around dogs are important aspects of the Bylaw and Policy and align with the relevant parts of the strategic framework.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 There are no mana whenua implications associated with this report.

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 Council is required under the Dog Control Act 1996 to have a Policy in respect of dogs in its district. The Council must make any necessary Bylaws in order to give effect to the Policy. Any Bylaw authorised by the Act must be made in accordance with the LGA.

9.2 The review of the Bylaw and Policy will be done in accordance with the requirements of the Dog Control Act 1996 and the LGA.

9.3 The Policy/Planning Committee determined, in accordance with section 155 of the LGA, that a bylaw remains the most appropriate way to manage dog-control issues in the Rangitīkei District and to give effect to the Dog Control Act 1996. The Committee also noted that section 10(6) of the Dog Control Act requires Council to make the bylaw necessary to implement its Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy. In making these determinations, the Committee completed the statutory review of the Dog Control Bylaw.

9.4 Council is required to use the Special Consultative Procedure under the LGA for the review of the Bylaw and Policy.

9.5 Council must under section 83(1)(e) of the LGA 2002 (as stipulated under section 10(2) Dog Control Act 1996), give notice of the draft Policy to every person on Council's dog registration database who is the owner of a dog.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 The Special Consultative Procedure is required for the Bylaw and Policy; the Statement of Proposal is attached.

10.2 If approved by the Committee, consultation will be held from the 14 September through to 16 October, with a Hearing planned to be held in November 2026 by the Policy/Planning Committee.

10.3 Following this the Policy/Planning Committee will deliberate and recommend the Bylaw and Policy be adopted by Council.

Attachments:

1. **Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy (under separate cover)**

Recommendation 1

That the report Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council confirm that the draft Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy with/without [delete one] amendment be approved for public consultation.

Recommendation 3

That Council gives the Chief Executive authority to make minor editorial and formatting changes to the Statement of Proposal for the Control of Dogs Bylaw and Dog Control and Owner Responsibility Policy prior to publication for community consultation.

10.3 Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021

Author: **Janna Harris, Corporate Planner**

Authoriser: **Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager**

1. Reason for Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021, and to seek a decision on the future of the bylaw.

2. Context

2.1 The Food Business Grading Bylaw (the Bylaw) was reviewed by Council in 2021, and adopted on 28 October 2021. The Bylaw is required to be reviewed by 28 October 2026.

2.2 Before officers undertake work on a review, we are seeking direction from Council on whether it still considers this Bylaw to be necessary, or whether instead we can allow the Bylaw to be automatically revoked.

<u>Local Government Act 2002</u>

2.3 The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) states that a territorial authority can make a bylaw for the purpose of:

> *'section 145 (b) protecting, promoting, and maintaining public health and safety'*

2.4 The purpose of this bylaw is to support Council's role in monitoring food businesses registered with Council as their Registration Authority. This is achieved by proving safety and suitability for food, and providing the public with information about the level of a food business's compliance with the food safety regime.

2.5 Despite this Bylaw being a reiteration of the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2014, it was not reviewed within the prescribed statutory timeframe set in the LGA, and therefore, the bylaw must be reviewed within five (5) years of the date of adoption.

<u>Food Act 2014</u>

2.6 The Food Act 2014 is the primary piece of legislation that regulates food within New Zealand.

2.7 A bylaw was previously the main tool for regulating food businesses. Council created a food business grading bylaw to regulate food businesses through a grading system. However, since then the Food Act 2014 has removed the need for a bylaw to regulate food businesses.

2.8 The Food Act 2014 now regulates food businesses using a 'risk-based' approach. The Food Act 2014 prescribes more stringent requirements for businesses such one with a focus on production, compared to medium and lower risk businesses. As a result in this change to legislation, the Bylaw was required to be updated to ensure that the Bylaw did not contradict the legislation.

2.9 As this Bylaw is created under the LGA, the enforcement powers and penalties relating to the Bylaw are prescribed within the LGA. However, the Food Act 2014 contains stronger enforcement powers and penalties, including the ability to suspend any operations of a food business or cancel the registration of the business, while the main penalty under the LGA is a fine not exceeding $20,000.

2.10 Of note since the introduction of the Food Act 2014, Environmental Health Officers have not taken enforcement action under the Bylaw. Environmental Health Officers have instead used the Food Act 2014.

2.11 If Council chooses not to review the Bylaw, instead allowing it to be automatically revoked, Environmental Health Officers will be able to continue carrying out any inspections, enforcement, and any other requirements to operate a food business under the Food Act 2014.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

3.1 Option 1: Let the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021 lapse on 28 October 2028

3.1.1 This option is recommended by Officers.

3.1.2 The Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021 is due to be reviewed by 28 October 2026 under the LGA. If this review does not take place the Bylaw will be automatically revoked two (2) years after this date in accordance with s160A of the LGA.

3.1.3 This option should be chosen if the Council is satisfied that the Food Act 2014 provides more appropriate powers to enforce food safety in relation to food businesses that are required to be registered with Council as their Registering Authority, and therefore, a food business grading bylaw is no longer required.

3.2 Option 2: Request that staff commence the review of the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021

3.2.1 This option should be chosen if Council would like the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021 to be reviewed. Council may choose to take this approach if Council believes that the Bylaw may be needed. Once this review is completed, Council would then decide to consult on an updated bylaw, or to consult on revoking the bylaw using the special consultation procedure as set out in the LGA.

3.2.2 If this option is chosen, the review will be completed and brought back to the Council for consideration prior to 28 October 2026. Council will then have until 28 October 2028 to adopt an updated bylaw or follow the process to revoke the bylaw, before it will be automatically revoked.

4. Financial Implications

4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report. The costs associated with developing and enforcing bylaws are already accounted for within existing budgets.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

5.1 The strategic risk ‘regulatory effectiveness is questioned’ is associated with this report. While food businesses will continue to be regulated through the Food Act 2014 if the Bylaw is not reviewed within statutory timeframes, there is a risk that the community perceives the lack of a bylaw as a lack of regulation for food businesses.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 The community outcome 'Economic Wellbeing' is relevant to this report. If the community is confident in the safety of food businesses within the district, they are more likely to support the local economy by frequenting these premises. This can be achieved with or without a bylaw, as Council will still enforce food safety regulations as prescribed within the Food Act 2014.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

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

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 The statutory implications are explained above.

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 The decision-making process is explained above.

10.2 This item is considered to have low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. However, the review of a bylaw must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the LGA which includes using the special consultative procedure.

Attachments:

1. **Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021**

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021' be received.

Recommendation 2

That Council does not review the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021 and let it be automatically revoked on 28 October 2028.

OR

That Council reviews the Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021 prior to 28 October 2026.

REGULATORY SERVICES

Paeroa Māhiti Pakihi Hoko Kai

Food Business Grading Bylaw

Date of adoption:	**28 October 2021**
Resolution number:	21/RDC/367
Date review due:	**October 2031**
Relevant legislation:	Food Act 2014
Statutory:	No

RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

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FOOD BUSINESS GRADING BYLAW 2021

Paeroa Māhiti Pakihi Hoko Kai

1 TITLE

1.1 This bylaw shall be known as the Rangitikei District Council Food Business Grading Bylaw 2021.

2 COMMENCEMENT

2.1 This bylaw comes into force on 1 November 2021

3 SCOPE

3.1 This bylaw is made under the authority given by sections 145 and 146(a)(v) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3.2 This bylaw applies to:

a) Premises for which Council is the Registration Authority.
b) Food Businesses that are registered with another Authority and request a grading inspection.

4 PURPOSE

4.1 The purpose of this bylaw is to:

a) Allow the community to make informed decisions in respect to food businesses.
b) Support Council's role in monitoring food businesses.

5 INTERPRETATION

5.1 For the purposes of this bylaw the following definitions apply:

AUTHORISED OFFICER means an Environmental Health Officer warranted by the Rangitikei District Council.

COUNCIL means the Rangitikei District Council.

FOOD shall have the same meaning as in Section 9 of the Food Act 2014 or any subsequent legislation.

FOOD HANDLER means any person who is directly involved with the handling, packaging, preparation and/or cooking of food for human consumption.

FOOD BUSINESS shall have the same meaning as in Food Act 2014.

GRADE and GRADING means the grade allocated to a food business following an inspection by an Authorised Officer in accordance with the matrix in Appendix 1. The definition of the grades awarded under this bylaw are listed below:

> **GRADE A** means Excellent – with a premises score rating of 20 to 25.
>
> **GRADE B** means Good – with a premises score rating of 15 to 19.
>
> **GRADE D** means Sub-standard – with a premises score rating of 9 to 14.
>
> **GRADE E** means Unacceptable – with a premises score rating of 0 to 8.
>
> **GRADE N** means New – where premises are new or have transferred operator, and are awaiting grading.

GRADING CERTIFICATE means the certificate issued to a food business following an inspection or a re-inspection, stating the grade allocated to the premises by an Authorised Officer.

INSPECTION means an assessment by an Authorised Officer to establish the level of compliance with the current food safety legislation applicable to the food business.

OPERATOR shall have the same meaning as in section 8 of the Food Act 2014 or any subsequent legislation.

OFFENCE means a failure to comply with the requirements of this bylaw.

RE-INSPECTION means a follow up inspection by an Authorised Officer to determine if the remedial works/actions identified at a previous inspection have been rectified.

RE-GRADING means a re-assessment of a food business for grading purposes.

Verification means an assessment by an Authorised Officer to establish the level of conformance with a documented Food Safety Programme and compliance with the Food Act 2014.

6 GRADING

6.1 All food businesses will be allocated a grade as required by the specific plan they use or if requested by the food business.

6.2 A new food business or a food business that has had a change of operator, will receive a grading inspection/verification within six weeks of continuous operation.

6.3 Grades will be calculated using the criteria in Appendix 1. Due to the food safety importance of sections 1 to 4 of Appendix 1. Any food business scoring 3 or below in any one of these sections will be ineligible for the award of an "A" grade and any score of 1 or below in any one of these sections will result in a "E" grade.

6.4 A grading certificate shall be issued to the operator of a food business as soon as practicable following an inspection/verification, but no longer than twenty working days following an assessment.

6.5 The current grade certificate must be displayed at each public entrance of the business, so as to be readily visible from the exterior of the premises.

6.6 The grading certificate shall be current for a period required until another grading is due from the date of issue or such lesser time if it is amended, cancelled or withdrawn by an Authorised Officer following a subsequent grading or other inspection.

6.7 Grading certificates are not transferable from one operator to another.

7 RE-GRADING

7.1 The operator of the food business may apply in writing to the Council at any time for re-grading inspection.

7.2 If accepted, re-grading inspections will take place within 20 working days of receipt of a written request.

7.3 A grading certificate will be issued within twenty working days following the re-grading inspection/verification.

7.4 Any re-grading/re-inspections shall be charged at the rates set by the Council.

8 APPEALS

8.1 Any Operator of a Food Business may appeal against any grading or against any requirement made by an Authorised Officer in accordance with this bylaw.

8.2 An appeal must be directed to the Council in writing and must be received within ten working days of notification of the grade and/or requirement.

8.3 The decision of an Authorised Officer shall stand until such time as the Council determines the matter. The right of appeal under this bylaw is in addition to any other statutory right made available to the Operator.

8.4 Council's Hearings Committee will determine the appeal.

9 Fees

9.1 Fees are set by resolution of Council.

10 Penalties

10.1 In accordance with section 239 of the Local Government Act 2002, every person who breaches this bylaw commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to the penalty set out in section 242(4) of that Act (being a fine not exceeding $20,000).

APPENDIX 1: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FOOD BUSINESS INSPECTION MATRIX

	ASSESSMENT OF PERSONAL HYGIENE PRACTICES	Score
Section 1	Excellent standard of personal hygiene, all required tools provided to a high Standard.	5
	Good standard of personal hygiene, wash hand basins fully equipped.	4
	Acceptable standard of personal hygiene, wash hand basins fully equipped.	3
	Personal hygiene needing improvement, wash hand basins not fully equipped.	2
	Lack of understanding of personal hygiene requirements, wash hand basins are not fully equipped.	1
	Serious breaches of hygiene practice requirements	0

	ASSESSMENT OF TEMPERATURE CONTROL	Score
Section 2	Written temperature monitoring programme, procedures relating to temperature control in place and fully implemented.	5
	Temperature monitoring programme and procedures relating to temperature control in place, but not fully documented.	4
	Minimal risk of temperature abuse. Temperatures in compliance with requirements	3
	Temperature control generally good, but some significant gaps in procedures	2
	Some evidence of temperature abuse and food potentially contaminated	1
	Serious breaches of temperature control	0

	ASSESSMENT OF FOOD PROTECTION	Score
Section 3	Documented systems in place and evidence that procedures have been implemented	5
	Food protected and systems in place, but not documented	4
	Some systems in place, food unlikely to be exposed to contamination	3
	Systems needing improvement, risk that food exposed to contamination	2
	Lack of food protection and evidence that food exposed to contamination	1
	Serious breaches of food protection requirements	0

	ASSESSMENT OF CLEANING AND SANITISING	Score
Section 4	Excellent overall standard of cleanliness, documented cleaning schedule in place.	5
	Excellent overall standard of cleanliness but no documented cleaning schedule in place.	4
	Good standard of cleanliness	3
	General standard of cleanliness reasonable – improvement needed to prevent a fall in standards	2
	Premises in a poor condition, general lack of effective cleaning	1
	Premises in an unacceptable condition, almost total non-compliance with food protection requirements.	0

	ASSESSMENT OF PREMISES (STRUCTURAL)	Score
Section 5	Excellent overall condition, maintenance programme in place	5
	Very good overall condition, regular maintenance	4
	Good overall condition, suitable for purpose	3
	Reasonable overall condition, but improvements needed to prevent a fall in standards	2
	Poor overall condition and general lack of maintenance	1
	Serious structural deficiencies and premises not suitable to be used as food premises	0

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Andy's Nosh Shop

This food operation has been awarded the following grade

PREVIOUS GRADE

B

A

Excellent

This certificate was issued

MAY 2020

If there has been a change in the grade of this operator's grade it is because:

Improved cleanliness.

Signed: Bob Smith Bob Smith Environmental Health Officer Date: 1/05/2020

Dean's Dream Burgers

Hunterville

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This food operation has been awarded the following grade

PREVIOUS GRADE

A

B

Good

This certificate was issued:

JUNE 2020

If there has been a change in the grade of this operator's grade it is because:

Poor Food Handling Practise

Signed: *Bob Smith* Bob Smith Environmental Health Officer Date: 1/06/2020

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Lynne's Lovely Tea Rooms

Marton

This food operation has been awarded the following grade

PREVIOUS GRADE

B

D

Sub Standard

This certificate was issued:

JUNE 2020

If there has been a change in the grade of this operator's grade it is because:

Poor temperature control posing a risk to food hygiene

Signed: *Bob Smith* Bob Smith Environmental Health Officer Date: 1/06/2020

Montizuma's Revenge

Taihape

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This food operation has been awarded the following grade

E

Unacceptable

PREVIOUS GRADE

D

This certificate was issued:

JUNE 2020

If there has been a change in the grade of this operator's grade it is because:

Vermin infestation, poor hygiene

Signed: *Bob Smith* Bob Smith Environmental Health Officer Date: 1/06/2020

11 Recommendations from Committees

11.1 Recommendation from the 27 August 2026 Assets/Infrastructure Committee

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

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

1. Reason for Report

1.1 To provide the Assets/Infrastructure Committee Terms of Reference to Council for Adoption.

2. Terms of Reference

2.1 The Assets/Infrastructure Committee discussed their Terms of Reference at the 27 August 2026 meeting. The Committee recommended Terms of Reference to Council for adoption with the following changes:

2.1.1 Removal of the word ‘delegations’

2.1.2 Inclusion of a footnote stating the Te Rōpū Ahi Kā representative would be subject to future directions from Council (in the context of the Local Government (System Improvements) Bill.

That the Assets/Infrastructure Committee recommends to Council the updated Terms of Reference are adopted, as amended.

Cr D Wilson/ Cr S Field. Carried

2.2 The Terms of Reference have been amended as requested by the Committee and are attached for adoption.

Attachments:

1. **Assets/Infrastructure Committee Terms of Reference** ⇩

Recommendation 1

That the report Recommendation from the 27 August 2026 Assets/Infrastructure Committee be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Terms of Reference for the Assets/Infrastructure Committee be adopted.

Assets/Infrastructure Committee

Terms of Reference

As at 3 September 2026

Elected Members	Open to all councillors, no minimum number. His Worship the Mayor (ex-officio)
External Members	1 member appointed by Te Rōpū Ahi Kā (optional) [1]
Chair	Deputy Mayor Dave Wilson
Meeting frequency	Monthly – alternating between a formal meeting and workshop
Reports to	Council

Purpose

To ensure governance oversight and strategic direction for the management of Council-owned assets/infrastructure.

Outcomes

The community and Council are confident that:

- Council's infrastructure assets are managed on a whole-of-life basis.
- Infrastructure investment decisions are aligned with the Long Term Plan, Infrastructure Strategy, asset management plans, and agreed levels of service.
- Significant capital projects and renewal programmes are monitored effectively for alignment with Council's strategic framework, scope, cost, timing, and risk.
- Infrastructure planning responds to resilience, climate adaptation, growth, affordability, and compliance.
- Council's asset portfolios are maintained in a way that protects public value and supports current and future communities, taking into account financial and external constraints.
- Appropriate engagement occurs with mana whenua, affected communities, and key stakeholders on significant infrastructure matters.

Scope

- Roading and transport
- Drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater, until Council's transition to Central Districts Water

[1] Note this appointment may be subject to further directions from Council, noting the Local Government (System Improvements) Bill currently moving through parliament.

- Rural water supply
- Solid waste and recycling
- Council property, buildings, and community facilities
- Parks, reserves, cemeteries, and other public places
- Major renewals, replacements, and capital delivery programmes
- Asset management planning

Terms of Reference

1. Strategic direction
   a. Oversight and input into Council's infrastructure and assets priorities for Council's Long Term Plan, including asset management planning.
2. Major Capital Projects
   a. Monitor approved capital works, renewal programmes, and major projects, including risks, budget variances, schedule changes.
3. Road legalisation actions, including road stopping, realignment, vesting.
4. Approval of contract terms for acquisition and disposal of land interests (subject to approval in principle of Council, or in adopted Council documents e.g. Annual Plan or Long Term Plan).

12 Meeting Closed.