

ORDER PAPER

POLICY/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 12 June 2025
Time: 1.00pm
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Chair: Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Deputy Chair: Cr Gill Duncan
Membership: Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Paul Sharland
Cr Simon Loudon
HWTM Andy Watson

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Notice is hereby given that a Policy/Planning Committee Meeting of the Rangitikei District Council will be held in the Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council, 46 High Street, Marton on Thursday, 12 June 2025 at 1.00pm.

Order Of Business

1	Welcome / Prayer	4
2	Apologies	4
3	Public Forum	4
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations.....	4
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	4
6	Confirmation of Minutes	5
6.1	Confirmation of Minutes	5
7	Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings	13
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings	13
8	Chair's Report	15
8.1	Chair's Report- June 2025	15
9	Reports for Decision	16
9.1	Proposed Plan Change 3 - Urban Growth - Direction on growth areas to propose to rezone	16
10	Reports for Information.....	28
10.1	Rangitikei Tomorrow - Economic Strategy Draft.....	28
10.2	Economic Update	66
10.3	Regulatory Update	70
10.4	Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update	75
10.5	Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update	79
11	Discussion Items.....	83
11.1	Proposed Changes to National Direction under the Resource Management Act 1991.....	83
12	Meeting Closed.	84

AGENDA

1 Welcome / Prayer

2 Apologies

3 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 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 **Policy/Planning Committee Meeting held on 10 April 2025** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Policy/Planning Committee Meeting - 10 April 2025**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Policy/Planning Committee Meeting held on 10 April 2025 [**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



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: POLICY/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Thursday, 10 April 2025
Time: 1.00pm
Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Paul Sharland
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Simon Loudon
HWTM Andy Watson

In attendance

Mrs Carol Gordon, Chief Executive
Ms Katrina Gray, Group Manager – Strategy, Community and Democracy
Mr Johan Cullis, Group Manager – Regulatory and Emergency Management
Mrs Janna Harris, Corporate Planner
Ms Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager
Mr Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

Order of Business

1	Welcome / Prayer	3
2	Apologies	3
3	Public Forum	3
4	Conflict of Interest Declarations.....	3
5	Confirmation of Order of Business	3
6	Confirmation of Minutes	3
7	Follow-up Actions.....	4
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings	4
8	Chair's Report	4
8.1	Chair's Report- April 2025	4
9	Reports for Decision	4
9.1	Gambling Venues (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venues Policy Deliberations Report	4
9.2	Water Related Services Bylaw Findings and Options.....	5
10	Reports for Information.....	5
10.1	Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update	5
10.2	Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update	6
10.3	Economic Update	6
10.4	Regulatory Update	6
10.5	Huriwaka Windfarm Update	6

1 Welcome / Prayer

The Mayor opened the meeting at 1.00pm and chaired the meeting.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/012

That the apologies from Cr Hiroa, Cr Duncan and Cr Maughan be received.

The committee noted the resignation from Te Rōpū Ahi Kā member Chris Shenton.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/013

That the minutes of Policy/Planning Committee Meeting held on 13 February 2025 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/014

That the minutes of Policy/Planning Committee Meeting held on 13 March 2025 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

7 Follow-up Actions

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/015

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report- April 2025

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/016

That the Chair's Report - April 2025 be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr P Sharland. Carried

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Gambling Venues (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venues Policy Deliberations Report

Mrs Harris highlighted the consultation that there were fourteen submissions received and five speakers at the hearing.

Gambling Policy and TAB Venues Policy

The committee noted the harm of gambling and the sensitive subject in the community. Majority of the committee supported a cap approach.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/017

That the report 'Gambling Venues (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venues Policy Deliberations Report' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/018

That the Policy/Planning Committee receive all submissions, including the late submission made as part of consultation on the Gambling Venues (Class 4) Policy and the TAB Venues Policy.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/019

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the Gambling Venues (Class 4) Policy is adopted as consulted on without amendment.

Cr D Wilson/Cr J Wong. Carried Cr Loudon voted against.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/020

That the Policy/Planning Committee recommends to Council that the TAB Venues Policy is adopted as consulted on without amendment.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

9.2 Water Related Services Bylaw Findings and Options

Mrs Harris highlighted that the deadline to review the bylaw is the 30 April, and therefore this is on time.

Officers responded to questions that there are improvements that can be made on the policy.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/021

That the report 'Water Related Services Bylaw Findings and Options' is received.

Cr J Wong/Cr P Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/022

That the Policy/Planning Committee agree that the on-time statutory review of the Water Related Services Bylaw 2020 is complete, and that:

- i. A bylaw is still the most appropriate way to regulate water related services in the Rangitikei District; and
- ii. The current bylaw could be improved in line with the findings in the findings report; and
- iii. The current bylaw does not give rise to any implications and is not inconsistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Cr D Wilson/HWTM A Watson. Carried

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/023

That the Policy/Planning Committee direct officers to make amendments to the Water Related Services Bylaw and to bring a draft bylaw and consultation material back to the Committee for its consideration at a later date.

HWTM A Watson/Cr R Lambert. Carried

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update

Mokai Bridge Bungy Jumping Bylaw

The Mayor asked about the removal of materials on the site once the bylaw is revoked. Officers undertook to confirm this.

Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings

Officers responded to questions that there is a desire to review the policy, but key staff involved with the policy have had other priorities at this stage.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/024

That the report 'Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update' be received.

Cr P Sharland/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10.2 Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update

The Committee noted concerns with the Resource Management Act reform and other central government changes that may impact on the planned work.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/025

That the report 'Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update' be received.

HWTM A Watson/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10.3 Economic Update

Local Insights and Update

Mr Calkin highlighted the quarterly update and that the district is performing strong, and this is likely due to the primary industries in the district. The Committee noted that globally with the impacts on tariffs may have future impacts.

Mayors Taskforce for Jobs

The Mayor noted that discussions about the contract with Mayors Taskforce for Jobs is still ongoing.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/026

That the report 'Economic Update' be received.

Cr R Lambert/Cr J Wong. Carried

10.4 Regulatory Update

Mr Cullis noted that the determination is that tiny homes are buildings and not vehicles. There is a difference between granny flats and tiny homes, a granny flat must be associated with a dwelling or contain other facilities such as kitchen and water.

Mr Cullis responded to questions around the IANZ audit. It was requested the outcome come back to Council or the Committee.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/027

That the Regulatory Update report be received

HWTM A Watson/Cr D Wilson. Carried

10.5 Huriwaka Windfarm Update

Officers undertook to update the 123 kilometres as a typo.

Officers highlighted that project was under the fast-track process and there is different engagement process due to this.

Resolved minute number 25/PPL/028

That the 'Huriwaka Windfarm Update' report is received.

HWTM A Watson/Cr D Wilson. Carried

The meeting closed at 2.10pm

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Policy/Planning Committee held on 12 June 2025.

.....
Chairperson

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Policy/Planning Committee Meetings

Author: Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Policy/Planning Committee meetings. Items indicate who is responsible for 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 Policy/Planning Committee Meetings' be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	10-Apr-25	Do materials need to be removed from Mokai Bridge associated with the bungy jumping? Bylaw is going to be revoked.	Janna / GDP	The Roding team will remove the small signs and will remove the large sign if they have the ability to do so. The platform can remain and be used for bridge maintenance. The condition of the platform will need to be assessed.	In progress
2	10-Apr-25	Disposal of Surplus Lands Policy - CE to provide detail on availability of staff to complete the review.	Carol	The Economic Lead has commenced the review, with internal reviews currently being completed.	In progress
3	10-Apr-25	An update on the outcome of the IANZ Building Audit back to PPL.	Johan	Update provided as part of the regulatory update.	In progress

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report- June 2025

Author: Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Chair

The Chair may provide a verbal or tabled report at the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Chair's Report- June 2025 be received.

9 Reports for Decision

9.1 Proposed Plan Change 3 - Urban Growth - Direction on growth areas to propose to rezone

Author: Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager

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

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Officers are seeking direction from the Policy/Planning Committee (the Committee) on which growth areas to continue to assess with the intention to proposed that they be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 - Urban Growth (PPC3).

2. Context

- 2.1 Officers are currently preparing PPC3. The purpose of this plan change is to provide for urban growth across the district over the next 30 years.
- 2.2 This plan change focuses on the Residential and Rural Lifestyle zones within the Rangitikei District Plan. PPC3 will look at how to better provide for intensification of urban development (where appropriate), amend any provisions in the Residential and Rural Lifestyle zones that are not working and/or are not achieving their desired outcomes, and will propose to rezone land to provide for greenfield growth where there is an identified need.
- 2.3 Officers have been assessing “growth areas” that may be suitable to propose to rezone. These growth areas were identified in “Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond” Council’s Spatial Strategy and Community Plan, which was adopted by Council in 2023.
- 2.4 Officers were initially investigating areas in Marton, Bulls, Taihape, Hunterville, Mangaweka, and Turakina. In October 2024 Council decided to refine the scope of the growth areas being assessed and focus on growth areas for Marton, Bulls, and Mangaweka. Marton and Bulls are the towns in the district where most of our urban growth is occurring e.g. of the 552 residential lots consented between January 2019 and December 2023, 530 lots were in either Marton or Bulls. Mangaweka provides an opportunity for new greenfield growth in the northern part of the district.
- 2.5 Urban expansion of the other three towns and settlements (Taihape, Hunterville, and Turakina) can be part of a future plan change. Noting that Taihape and Hunterville still have residentially zoned land which has development potential. Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond assessed Taihape as having enough residential land for the next 13-26 years (depending on demand) and Hunterville for the next 10-20 years.
- 2.6 A range of technical assessments have either been completed for the growth areas on the edge of Marton, Bulls, and Mangaweka or are well underway, including:
 - The assessment of Council’s Three Waters infrastructure to understand capacity for growth including where upgrades or new infrastructure will be required to accommodate growth (stage 1 of this assessment is complete and stage 2 has been drafted and is with officers for their review);
 - Ecological Assessment of the growth areas (complete);

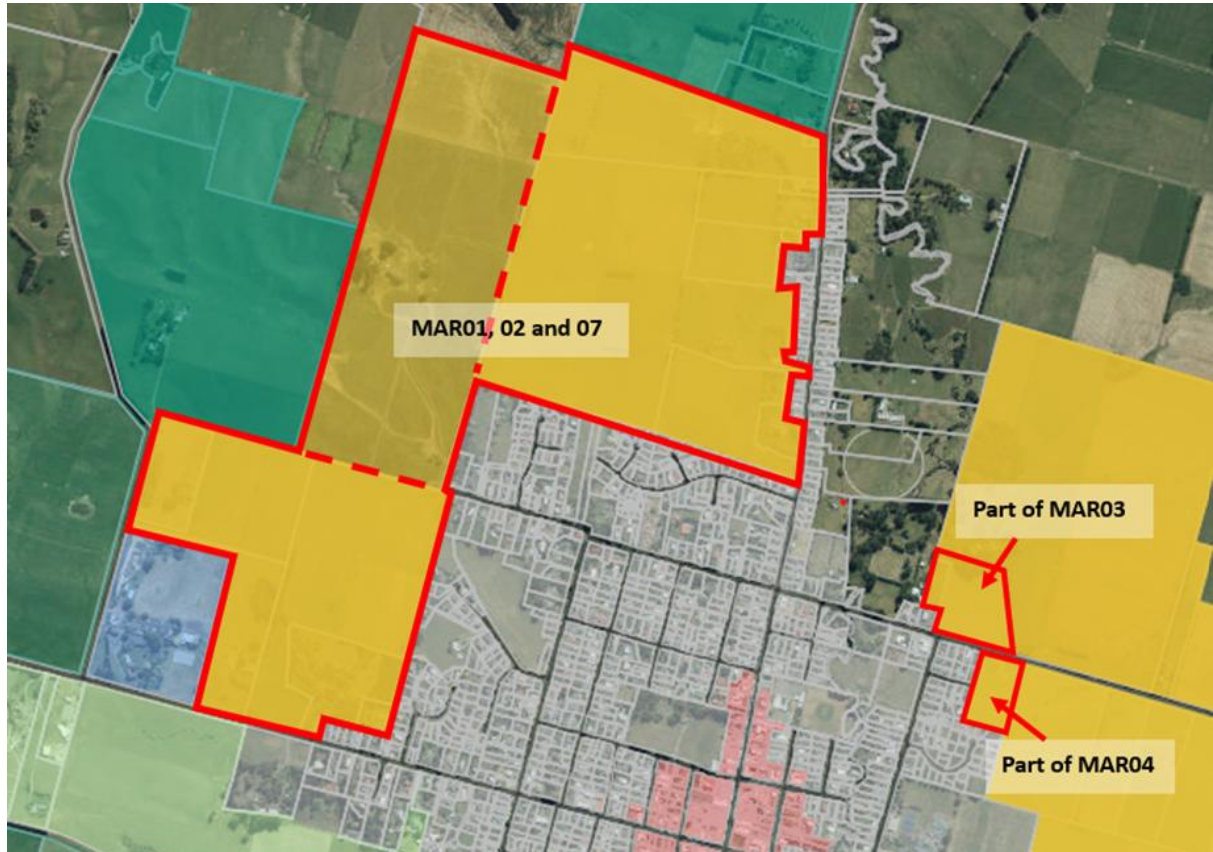
- Geotechnical Assessment of the growth areas (complete);
 - Integrated Transport Assessment of the growth areas and surrounding environment (drafted and awaiting discussion with the Roding Team and NZTA Waka Kotahi); and
 - Archaeological Assessments for Bulls (complete) and Marton (underway) growth areas.
- 2.7 The recommendations and findings of these assessments help officers and Council to better understand the opportunities and constraints associated with the different growth areas and to assess their appropriateness to propose for rezoning.
- 2.8 Officers have undertaken some engagement with landowners within the growth areas, letting them know that their land is within a growth area and that Council is undertaking technical assessments to inform a possible plan change. These landowners were given the opportunity to get in contact with officers to ask questions or raise any concerns they may have. Not all landowners have responded, but those that have, indicated a range of views towards the potential rezoning of their land (including supportive, unsure, and in opposition).
- 2.9 Officers have also undertaken informal engagement with Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa and Ngāti Parewahawaha.
- 2.10 Officers have started to socialise the proposed plan change on Council's social media and website in a limited capacity.

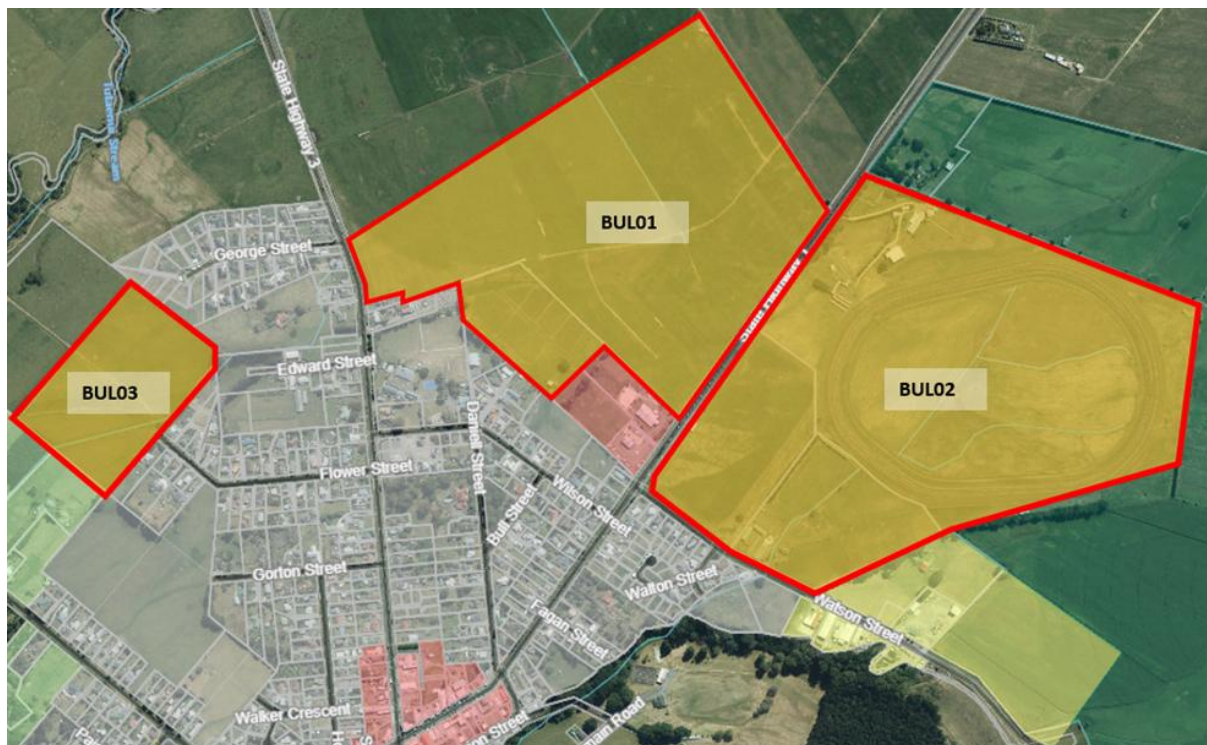
3. Discussion and Analysis of Growth Areas

- 3.1 The following growth areas have been assessed for Marton, Bulls, and Mangaweka:
- Marton growth areas are identified as MAR01, MAR02, Part MAR03, Part MAR04 and MAR07. These growth areas are identified in the below aerial image. MAR01 is located to the west of Tutaenui Road, MAR02 is north of Whanganui Road and east of Johnston Road, Part MAR03 is north of Calico Line, Part MAR04 is south of Calico Line and east of Dalrymple Place, and MAR07 is at the end of Milne Street.
 - MAR01 is approximately 62ha
 - MAR02 is approximately 42ha
 - Part MAR03 is approximately 4ha
 - Part MAR04 is 2ha
 - MAR07 is approximately 43ha
 - Bulls growth areas are identified as BUL01, BUL02, and BUL03. These growth areas are identified in the below aerial image. BUL01 is situated to the north of SH3 and west of SH1, BUL02 is to the east of SH1 and north of Watson Street, and BUL03 is at the end of Flower Street.
 - BUL01 is approximately 34ha
 - BUL02 is approximately 46ha
 - BUL03 is approximately 7ha

ITEM 9.1

- Mangaweka growth areas are identified as MAN01 and MAN02. These growth areas are identified in the below aerial image. MAN01 is north-east of Mangaweka (situated between SH1 and the rail corridor), and MAN02 is east of Mangaweka, south of Ruahine Road.
 - MAN01 is approximately 8ha
 - MAN02 is approximately 27ha

Marton growth areas:**Bulls growth areas:**



Mangaweka growth areas:



- 3.2 The growth areas that have been assessed for each of these three towns exceed the amount of land that has been identified as being required to adequately accommodate urban growth in the next 30 years. This was done to give Council options and ensure

ITEM 9.1

that if there were significant constraints identified within any of the growth areas that sufficient land could still be proposed to be rezoned.

- 3.3 The amount of land identified as required to provide for urban growth for Marton, Bulls, and Mangaweka is:
- Marton requires an additional 44ha of residentially zoned land;
 - Bulls requires an additional 16ha of residentially zoned land; and
 - Mangaweka does not specifically need additional residentially zoned land, however, Taihape requires an additional hectare, and this is not being provided for as part of this plan change.
- 3.4 Please note the additional land required differs to what was indicated in Pae Tawhiti Rangitīkei Beyond. This is because officers have used the Long Term Plan 2024-34 growth assumptions rather than the more aspirational assumptions used in the community spatial plan and officers also refined the analysis of available land.
- 3.5 A high level analysis of each of the growth areas based on technical assessments is provided below to help the Committee understand the opportunities and constraints associated with each of the areas.

Marton growth areas

Technical Assessment	Officer comments for growth areas
Water Treatment Plant	Upgrades underway and these should take into account growth. GHD have indicated that peak demand could be an issue.
Reticulated water supply	MAR01, MAR02, and MAR07 would require local upgrades to this network (including a substantial trunk main upgrade along Tutaenui Road). MAR02 and MAR07 also require the upgrade of mains from Bond Street/Oxford Street intersection to the end of Milne Street. Part MAR03 and Part MAR04 would not require upgrades.
Reticulated wastewater network	Existing issues with parts of the network that require upgrade currently. MAR01 and MAR02 require local upgrades.
Stormwater	Analysis was fairly crude and further assessment of the growth areas would be required at the development stage. Notably there are Horizons detention dams situated within MAR01, MAR02, and MAR07 which will need to be considered as part of any development proposal within these growth areas.
Ecology	Perennial or ephemeral waterways identified within MAR01, MAR02, and MAR07.

	<p>Potential for inland wetlands (needs ground truthing) identified within MAR01, MAR02, and MAR07.</p> <p>Lizard habitat in MAR07.</p> <p>Established shelterbelts and ornamental trees provide potential bat habitat.</p>
Geotechnical	<p>Middle to late Pleistocene alluvial deposits located on elevated marine terrace deposits. Moderate to high strength alluvial/marine SILTs underlain by gravel at greater depths.</p> <p>Noted minor-moderate stormwater channels/overland flow paths and minor alluvial undulations/terraces.</p> <p>Mapped active fault within MAR02 with a no build zone recommended.</p> <p>Liquefaction potential is unlikely/low.</p>
Transport	<p>MAR01 has multiple opportunities for access from Tutaenui Road and possibly via Milne Street.</p> <p>MAR02 can be accessed from Whanganui Road, Johnston Road, and possibly Milne Street.</p> <p>MAR07's only access point is from Milne Street.</p> <p>Milne Street intersection with Skerman Street and Bond Street will need a significant upgrade.</p> <p>If MAR01, MAR02, and MAR07 are all brought online then Bond/Broadway/Calico/Tutaenui intersection will eventually need upgrading.</p> <p>MAR03 and MAR04 have negligible impact on surrounding network.</p>
Archaeological	Currently being assessed.

Bulls growth areas

Technical Assessment	Officer comments for growth areas
Water Treatment Plant	This WTP has been assessed in more detail to identify what components require upgrade to ensure that it can provide for growth.
Reticulated water supply	<p>Growth is conditional on the AC main renewal programme and the Bulls Pump Station and Reservoir set up – which is underway.</p> <p>BUL03 requires the least upgrades to this network.</p>
Reticulated wastewater network	<p>Growth limited by the capacity of trunk main.</p> <p>Upgrades likely required to network for all growth areas. BUL02 would require more extensive upgrades (including</p>

ITEM 9.1

	pump station capacity increase and 650m of pipeline increasing from 150mm to 225mm diameter).
Stormwater	Analysis was fairly crude and further assessment of the growth areas would be required at the development stage. Overland flow paths present in all growth areas which require consideration if these areas were to be developed.
Ecology	Perennial or ephemeral waterways across all growth areas. Potential for inland wetlands (needs ground truthing) within BUL01 and BUL03.
Geotechnical	Late Pleistocene alluvial deposits located on elevated marine terrace deposits. Moderate to high strength alluvial SILTs underlain by alluvial gravel at shallow depths. Noted minor stormwater channels/overland flow paths and minor alluvial undulations/terraces. No mapped active faults within the assessed areas. Liquefaction potential is unlikely/low.
Transport	BUL01* would require access from SH1 and/or SH3. BUL02* would require access from SH1. BUL01 and BUL02 impact SH1 / SH3 intersection which is already approaching capacity. BUL03 lowest impact on surrounding network. <i>*Need to work with NZTA Waka Kotahi to understand their concerns about these areas.</i>
Archaeological	BUL01: No known archaeological sites. Noted proximity to Killeymoon and the small villa in the area may be pre-1900s. BUL02: Contains two archaeological sites being the former racecourse and the polo grounds. BUL03: No known archaeological sites. Noted an old track that traverses the area.

Mangaweka growth areas

Technical Assessment	Officer comments for growth areas
Water Treatment Plant	Consented take is close to capacity and some upgrades may be required to accommodate growth.
Reticulated water supply	MAN01 would not require upgrades to this network. MAN02 would require upgrades to part of this network.
Reticulated wastewater network	No upgrades have been identified as being required to accommodate these growth areas, however, MAN01 ranks

	better as the impact of this growth area on this network is negligible.
Stormwater	Analysis was fairly crude and further assessment of the growth areas would be required at the development stage.
Ecology	<p>Perennial or ephemeral waterways within MAN01 and MAN02.</p> <p>Potential for inland wetlands (needs ground truthing), most notably a large area identified within MAN01.</p> <p>Kahu Scenic Reserve adjoins MAN02.</p>
Geotechnical	<p>Late Pleistocene alluvial deposits located on elevated marine terrace deposits. Moderate to high strength alluvial SILTs and SANDs with gravel underlain by high strength marine terrace deposits at shallow depths.</p> <p>Noted minor stormwater channels/overland flow paths, with a very steep and deep alluvial channel which leads to the Rangitikei River.</p> <p>MAN01 lower than SH1 and the railway, so potential for inundation/ponding is noted.</p> <p>Very steep, 60m high alluvial cut cliffs adjoining MAN02 alongside the Rangitikei River – minimum setback distances from cliffs is recommended.</p> <p>Liquefaction potential is unlikely/low.</p>
Transport	<p>MAN01 good connection to the school and town centre. Weka Street and Kereru Street would need upgrading.</p> <p>MAN02 access from Ruahine Road recommended with secondary access from Raumaewa Road. Access to school and town centre is challenging.</p>
Archaeological	Not assessed.

- 3.6 Other key matters to consider include the implications of highly productive land and potential flood hazards.
- 3.7 In terms of highly productive land most of the growth areas contain LUC Class 3 land which is currently classed as highly productive land under the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HLP). It is noted that the proposed National Direction packages which are currently out for consultation could have an impact of this. Officers are currently working to understand this better and can provide a verbal update at the meeting.
- 3.8 With regards to potential flood hazards, officers have not commissioned site specific flood hazard assessments for the growth areas. Some of these growth areas are partially within a known flood hazard areas and this can be illustrated to the Committee by officers at the meeting via our GIS maps.

4. Options

- 4.1 Officers are seeking direction on which growth areas (or possibly parts of growth areas) this Committee would like to continue to pursue to proposed to rezone as part of PPC3.
- 4.2 As some information that the Committee may find useful to provide this direction is not available (e.g. the integrated transport assessment needs to be finalised, stage two of the Three Waters assessment is still a 'draft', and the archaeological assessment for Marton is still underway), the Committee may want to rank their preferred growth areas and indicate to officers if the receipt of the out-standing information results in the identification of a substantial constraint that their preferred growth area/s may change.
- 4.3 Options available to the Committee for each of the towns and have been identified below.
- 4.4 It is an option to continue to assess part of one or more of the growth areas if the Committee would prefer this as opposed to including an entire growth area.
- 4.5 The Committee can also identify more land than has been assessed as being required for growth for each town (e.g. Marton has been assessed as requiring 44ha but the Committee may want to identify more land than this to be rezoned). This provides a "buffer" as some land within a growth area may be constrained (e.g. the fault line through MAR02) or some landowners may choose not to develop their land. However, if significantly more land is proposed to be rezoned than what is required then this becomes more challengeable through the plan change process.
- 4.6 The options for Marton are:
 - 4.6.1 That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being MAR01 and/or MAR02 and/or Part MAR03 and/or Part MAR04 and/or MAR07 [delete as appropriate]. Noting that if the finalisation of technical assessments raises any new issues that could influence the Committee's decision-making, then officers will bring this back for further consideration.

OR
 - 4.6.2 That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Marton as it does not wish to propose any of the areas to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.
- 4.7 The options for Bulls are:
 - 4.7.1 That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being BUL01 and/or BUL02 and/or BUL03 [delete as appropriate]. Noting that if the finalisation of technical assessments raises any new issues that could influence the Committee's decision-making, then officers will bring this back for further consideration.

OR
 - 4.7.1 That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Bulls as it does not wish to propose any of them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.

4.8 The options for Mangaweka are:

4.8.1 That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being MAN01 and/or MAN02 [delete as appropriate].

4.8.2 That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Mangaweka as it does not wish to propose any of them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.

4.9 Officers will provide a verbal update on whether it is an option to assess MAN02 as a rural lifestyle area rather than a residential area at the meeting.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There is budget for the District Plan Review in the Annual Plan for 2024/25 and 2025/26 and Council has received funding from the Better Off Funding for the acceleration of this plan change.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 There are a number of strategic risks associated with PPC3 including:

- Trust and confidence is tarnished;
- Insufficient capability and capacity to fulfil agreed commitments; and
- Changes to government legislation are transformational.

6.2 A plan change of this nature is complex and has implications for people and their property. Officers aim to handle communications with potentially affected and/or interested people with integrity and professionalism to help mitigate the risk that trust and confidence in Council is tarnished.

6.3 The Strategy Team has limited resource, and must Council prioritise how that resource is utilised to ensure that key projects such as PPC3 progress.

6.4 Officers are continuing to monitor legislation and work to understand how the changes being proposed and put in place by the Government impact this plan change.

7. Strategic Alignment

7.1 PPC3 will have implications for Environmental, Social, Economic, and Cultural Wellbeing. The well-beings are invariably considered as part of the plan change process through technical reports (e.g. ecological assessments and archaeological assessments) and through consultation with affected landowners, key stakeholders, and the wider public.

7.2 A trusted partner with iwi. Officers have presented to and provided updates on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā for PPC3. Officers have met with Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa and Ngāti Parewahawaha and reached out to Ngāti Hauiti for a meeting, as the iwi/hapu with growth areas within their rohe. The plan change will follow the Schedule 1 process outlined in the Resource Management Act 1991, which stipulates special consultation with relevant iwi. Officers will work to ensure that as this plan change progresses Council will meet its commitment to being a trusted partner with iwi.

7.3 PPC3 strongly aligns with Council's Strategic Priority of Facilitating Growth.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

- 8.1 Officers will work with mana whenua to ensure that they have opportunity to input into PPC3 including understanding its implications for them. This will be in accordance with Schedule 1 requirements and also in line with Council's commitment to be a trusted partner with iwi as noted above in section 7.2 of this report.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 9.1 Climate Change is factored into the consideration of how future growth areas might be serviced. Furthermore, the avoidance of known hazard prone areas (e.g. land within a flood area) is preferred when assessing land for rezoning. Where there is no alternative land available, then climate change is considered as part of assessing the impact of the natural hazard and the viability of rezoning land affected by it for residential purposes.

10. Statutory Implications

- 10.1 The plan change process will be in accordance with Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

11. Decision Making Process

- 11.1 Officers will proceed with the preparation of the plan change based on the Committee's direction.
- 11.2 Decision-making will follow Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991.

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Proposed Plan Change 3 - Urban Growth - Direction on growth areas to propose to rezone' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being MAR01 and/or MAR02 and/or Part MAR03 and/or Part MAR04 and/or MAR07 [delete as appropriate]. Noting that if the finalisation of technical assessments raises any new issues that could influence the Committee's decision-making, then officers will bring this back for further consideration.

OR

That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Marton as it does not wish to propose any of them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.

Recommendation 3

That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being BUL01 and/or BUL02 and/or BUL03 [delete as appropriate]. Noting that if the finalisation of technical assessments raises any new issues that could influence the Committee's decision-making, then officers will bring this back for further consideration.

OR

That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Bulls as it does not wish to propose any of them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.

Recommendation 4

That the Committee identifies the following growth areas to continue to be assessed by officers, with the intention of proposing them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3 as being MAN01 and/or MAN02 [delete as appropriate].

OR

That the Committee directs officers to no longer continue the assessment of any of the growth areas identified for Mangaweka as it does not wish to propose any of them to be rezoned to Residential as part of Proposed Plan Change 3.

Recommendation 5

That where the Committee has indicated a growth area is no longer to be assessed for inclusion in Proposed Plan Change 3, officers are to inform the landowners within the growth area of this decision.

10 Reports for Information

10.1 Rangitikei Tomorrow - Economic Strategy Draft

Author: Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead

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

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The reason for this report is to provide the Policy/Planning Committee with the draft Economic Strategy.

2. Context

- 2.1 In June 2024 Council Officers introduced the work to create an Economic Wellbeing Strategy.
- 2.2 Council Officers held a series of workshops with Elected Members, Te Rōpū Ahi Kā, businesses and industry leaders. These workshops provided valuable insight into the current economic climate, strengths and weaknesses of the district and helped identify opportunities for growth.
- 2.3 At the most recent Committee meeting, Council Officers advised members of a reshaping of the Strategy to focus development on a traditional economic strategy. At this meeting, Council Officers shared the *Strategy on a Page* and talked to the goals and priorities of the strategy without having a finalised draft to share.
- 2.4 The draft strategy is attached to this report.

3. Discussion and Options Considered

- 3.1 The first section of the Strategy (pages 2–8) is focused on background information, current economic context and economic indicators.
- 3.2 The following section (pages 9-11) is focused on Council's role and existing programmes of work that impact the local economy.
- 3.3 The next section (pages 12-13) is an analysis of the challenges and opportunities that exist in the district.
- 3.4 Page 14-27 is the full strategy. This starts with a vision, goals and priorities which is then broken down further with details of the specific priorities and an example of it in action from businesses and organisations throughout the district. This final page of the Strategy outlines implementation and potential success measures.
- 3.5 The action plan (pages 28-33) outlines what specific steps will be taken under each priority to enable or encourage economic growth. The action plan outlines what role Council will take and sets out the timeframe for the action to be delivered.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 The implementation of the strategy itself has no direct financial implications however some individual actions require funding. This could be through external funding,

partnerships with other parties or a direct cost to Council which would be assessed through the usual business case process.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

5.1 There are no strategic risks relating to this report.

6. Strategic Alignment

6.1 Economic Wellbeing is a community outcome in Rangitikei District Council's strategic framework, giving this item strong alignment.

7. Mana Whenua Implications

7.1 Council Officers have held workshops with Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and iwi business leaders. Regular updates have been shared and feedback sought which have been incorporated throughout the development of the strategy.

8. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

8.1 There are no climate change impacts or considerations relating to this item.

8.2 Any climate change impacts and considerations relating to each action within the action plan will have its own assessment completed relating to the impacts on climate change.

9. Statutory Implications

9.1 There are no statutory implications relating to this item

10. Decision Making Process

10.1 There are no decisions required because of this report and the report is for information purposes only.

10.2 As a non-statutory document Council is not required to consult with the community on the draft Economic Strategy. In addition, when considering Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, consultation on the draft is not considered necessary. Council has sought feedback on economic development activities in the recent past through long term planning processes, the destination management plan, community spatial plan.

10.3 Council Officers recommend community consultation is not necessary, nevertheless Council could decide to consult on the draft Strategy.

10.4 At the next Policy/Planning Committee meeting in August, Council Officers will be seeking endorsement to take the Strategy to Council for adoption.

Attachments:

1. **Rangitikei Tomorrow Economic Strategy Draft** [📄](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Rangitikei Tomorrow – Economic Strategy Draft' report is received.

Rangitikei Tomorrow

**Working towards an economic
resilient and thriving Rangitikei**

Economic Strategy and Action Plan



make this place home



Introduction

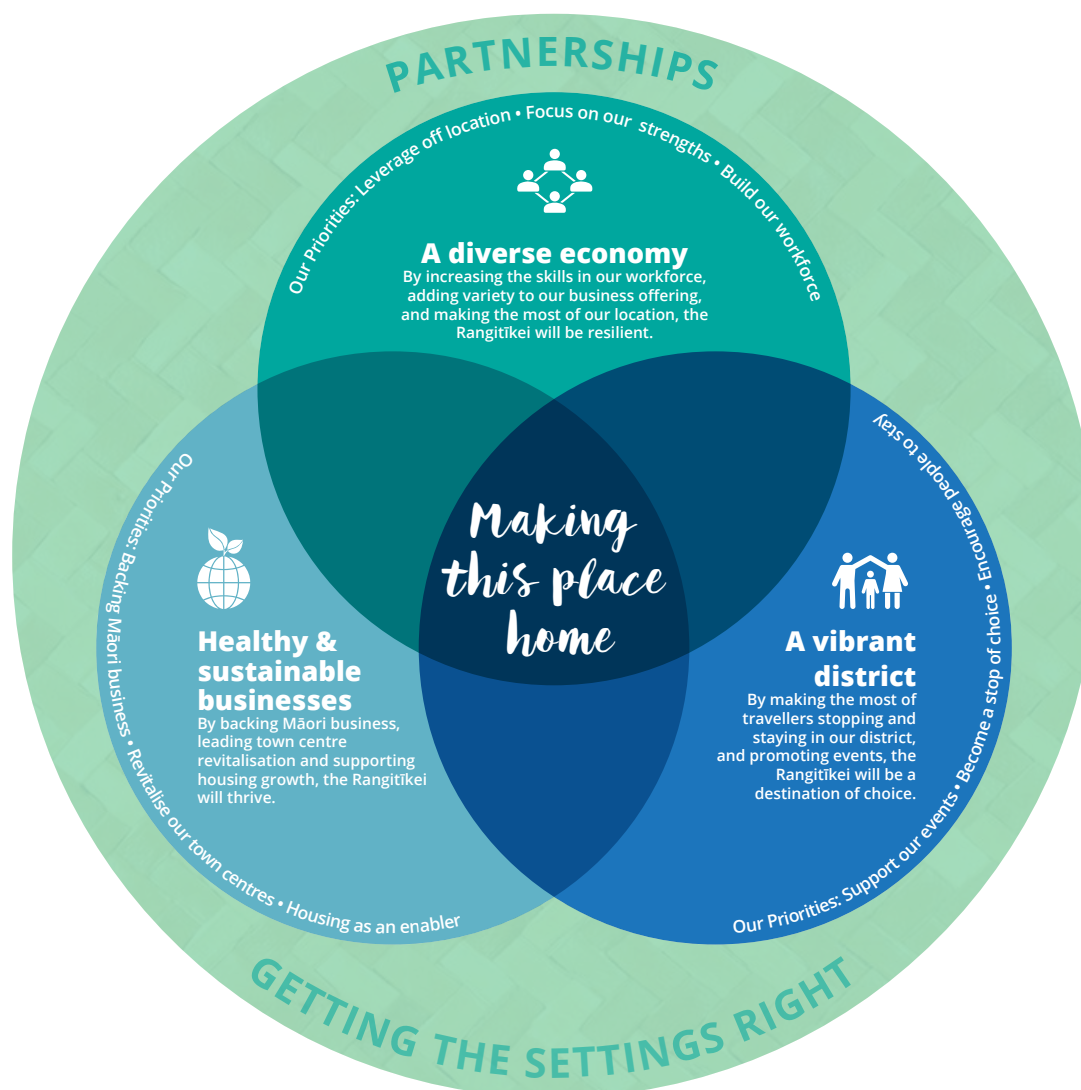
A strong local economy is foundational to a prosperous, vibrant, and resilient community. When the economy is thriving, residents see better job opportunities, higher wages, and a holistically better standard of living.

Rangitikei is home to many successful local, national and global organisations who enrich and support Rangitikei as a fantastic place to live, work, and do business.

The future is exciting for Rangitikei. The district is well-positioned to capitalise on opportunities for future economic development and growth, but we need to be prepared.

Rangitikei Tomorrow presents an ambitious economic vision for Rangitikei. It identifies key goals and priorities that will ensure the district remains well positioned for growth, and sets out how we plan to cultivate these opportunities with a comprehensive action plan.

Plan on a page



How Rangitikei Tomorrow was created

Rangitikei Tomorrow was developed in multiple stages. Initial work focussed on a stocktake of the current economic outlook and profile of Rangitikei, including understanding economic indicators such as GDP, income, and industry composition. This initial data was presented to key partners and stakeholders for discussion.

Through a series of workshops, Rangitikei iwi, business and sector leaders, and Rangitikei District Council Elected Members provided valuable insights into the real life experiences that fuel Rangitikei economic data.

Key themes from these workshops are briefly outlined below:

Iwi and Te Rōpū Ahi Kā

- Individual wealth is generated through equitable access to education, employment and training.
- People are our biggest resource.
- By procuring local contractors, Rangitikei District Council has the opportunity to make a difference to the local economy.
- Regulatory settings are important for enabling economic growth - i.e. by enabling zoning rules for commercial activities.
- Recruiting skilled workers is a challenge in a large district with a small population.
- Using the word 'wellbeing' means strong interconnections between all aspects of wellbeing. All aspects of wellbeing need to be weaved together - economic wellbeing cannot stand on its own. A good example of this is Ngā Puna Rau o Rangitikei, a collective of hapū and iwi connected to the Rangitikei awa catchment that works to manage and protect the awa. Their initiatives deliver environmental benefits for the Rangitikei awa catchment, while also delivering economic outcomes through local employment opportunities.
- Distribution of resources is important for the wellbeing of the whole community. It is important that everyone who calls Rangitikei home benefits from economic growth and development.
- Addressing inequity and striving for social cohesion are important elements of any economic growth and development strategy. If we aspire for all Rangitikei communities to truly thrive, we need to connect with the people are just trying to make it to the next day
- Economic wellbeing is about the opportunity to have choice. It does not necessarily mean financial wealth or a traditional career, it could mean serving the community, or the flexibility to stay at home and care for whānau.

Rangitikei businesses, sector leaders, and Elected Members

- The farming sector is facing significant challenges: The rise of AI, the need to automate and diversify, rising costs of doing business coupled with lower profit margins all threaten the profitability and sustainability of farming as a primary income source.
- Town centre development is important to attract talent and money into the economy. Earthquake prone building regulations are limiting development opportunities.
- Cost of living is an advantage for Rangitikei. The Rangitikei district offers great lifestyle at a more affordable price. These advantages should be capitalised and promoted more.
- Diversification of the economy (i.e. growing our tourism offering, or increasing manufacturing capabilities) is necessary but will require long-term effort and investment.
- Opportunity to better 'tell our story'. The beauty of Rangitikei, and the affordability of life here is undersold.
- Council procurement practices could better support local businesses by being directive about the benefits of local procurement.



National and regional strategic context

National

The Government has been clear about economic growth and development as a key priority. This approach differs from the wellbeing model introduced by the previous Labour Government.

Rangitikei Tomorrow has been scoped and shaped within the context of the 2025 political environment. However, as this document should endure and extend beyond the priorities of the Government of the day, we have ensured Rangitikei-specific nuance and the unique opportunities and challenges facing the district are prioritised.

Accelerate 35 (previously, Accelerate 25)

Accelerate 35 a regional economic development initiative that focuses on growing a prosperous Manawatū-Whanganui. It was established in response to a Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Growth Study undertaken in 2015 and facilitates collaboration and collective involvement in regional economic growth opportunities.

The initiative's mission is to "fast-track the major strategic priorities that will propel Manawatū-Whanganui forward". It plans to do this by assembling, inspiring and empowering talented teams to lead the strategic priorities that matter to them.

Te Pae Tawhiti

Te Pae Tawhiti is an intergenerational strategy for Māori economic development in the Manawatū-Whanganui region over the next twenty-four years. Its purpose is to provide direction and support for Māori to pursue economic development as whānau, hapū, iwi enterprises and communities, individually and collectively. Te Pae Tawhiti believes collaboration through Māori alliance will almost certainly accelerate economic growth that benefits both Māori and non-Māori in the Manawatū-Whanganui region.



The Rangitikei District

Located in the Central North Island, Rangitikei is part of the Manawatū-Whanganui region. The district covers 4,479 square kilometres and supports a strong primary sector - from the sand country of the south coast, to the magnificent hills of northern Rangitikei.

Whanganui and Palmerston North are within a commutable distance from Southern Rangitikei. Wellington, New Plymouth, Taupō and the Hawke's Bay are within a 2 – 3 hour drive.

Rangitikei has the advantage of access to State Highways 1 and 3, both of which provide significant inter-regional freight, commuter, and visitor traffic.

At least 28.5 million tonnes¹ (approximately 10% of Aotearoa New Zealand's total volume) of freight moves through the wider Manawatū-Whanganui region, relying on Rangitikei road and rail infrastructure. For example, the Taihape-Napier Road provides Hawke's Bay with a key link from Rangitikei and vice versa.

The extensive Rangitikei rail network transports freight around the North Island with at least 1.6 million tonnes passing through Marton per year.

Air Force Base Ōhakea is located just across the Rangitikei River in the Manawatū District. The Airbase's defence infrastructure carries national significance with a growing workforce, many of whom call Rangitikei home. Base Ōhakea undoubtedly supports continued population growth in Southern Rangitikei.

Rangitikei has been growing at a rate of around 170 people per year, resulting in increased housing pressure. Marton and Bulls have experienced the biggest growth pressure, followed by Hunterville and Taihape.

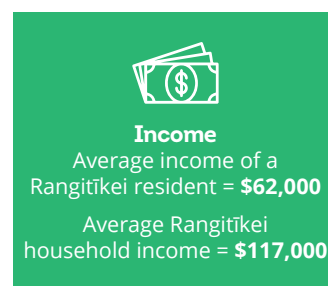
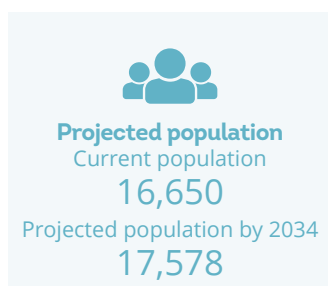
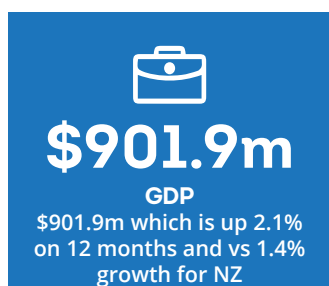
In 2024, roughly 16,650 call Rangitikei home.

¹ Data obtained from the Ministry of Transport National Freight Demand Study 2017/18

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1



Our economy (as at 2024)



Top 5 industries contributing to the Rangitikei economy

Agriculture, forestry and fishing	30%
Manufacturing	11.9%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	6.0%
Public administration and safety	5.7%
Construction	4.7%

Skills
(Rangitikei vs Aotearoa New Zealand)

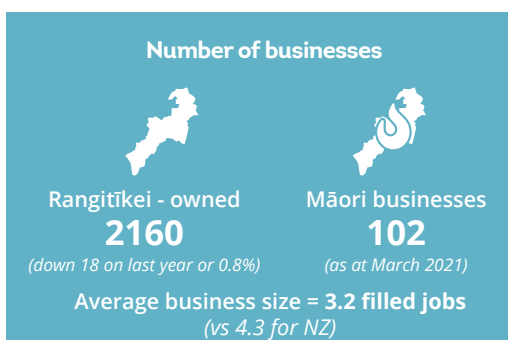
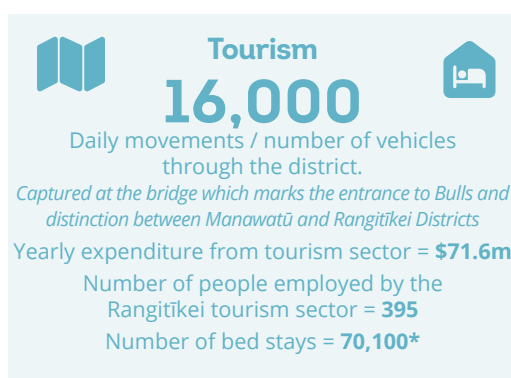
	Rangitikei	NZ
Highly-skilled	38.3%	38.5%
Skilled	9.5%	13.2%
Semi-skilled	12.2%	13.6%
Low-skilled	40.1%	34.7%

Year on year industry contribution

Top 5		Bottom 5	
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	\$19.3m	Financial and insurance services	-\$4.5m
Public administration and safety	\$4.9m	Retail trade	-\$3.9m
Information media and telecommunications	\$3.4m	Transport, postal and warehousing	-\$2.6m
Manufacturing	\$1.2m	Rental, hiring and real estate services	-\$1.8m
Health care and social assistance	\$0.9m	Professional, scientific and technical services	-\$1.7m

Housing
Average house price = **\$421,000**
Housing affordability regionally = **3.5x household income**
Housing diversity (data from 2023 census)

4.9%	14.4%	47.7%	25.9%	7.1%
1 Bedroom	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom	5+ Bedroom



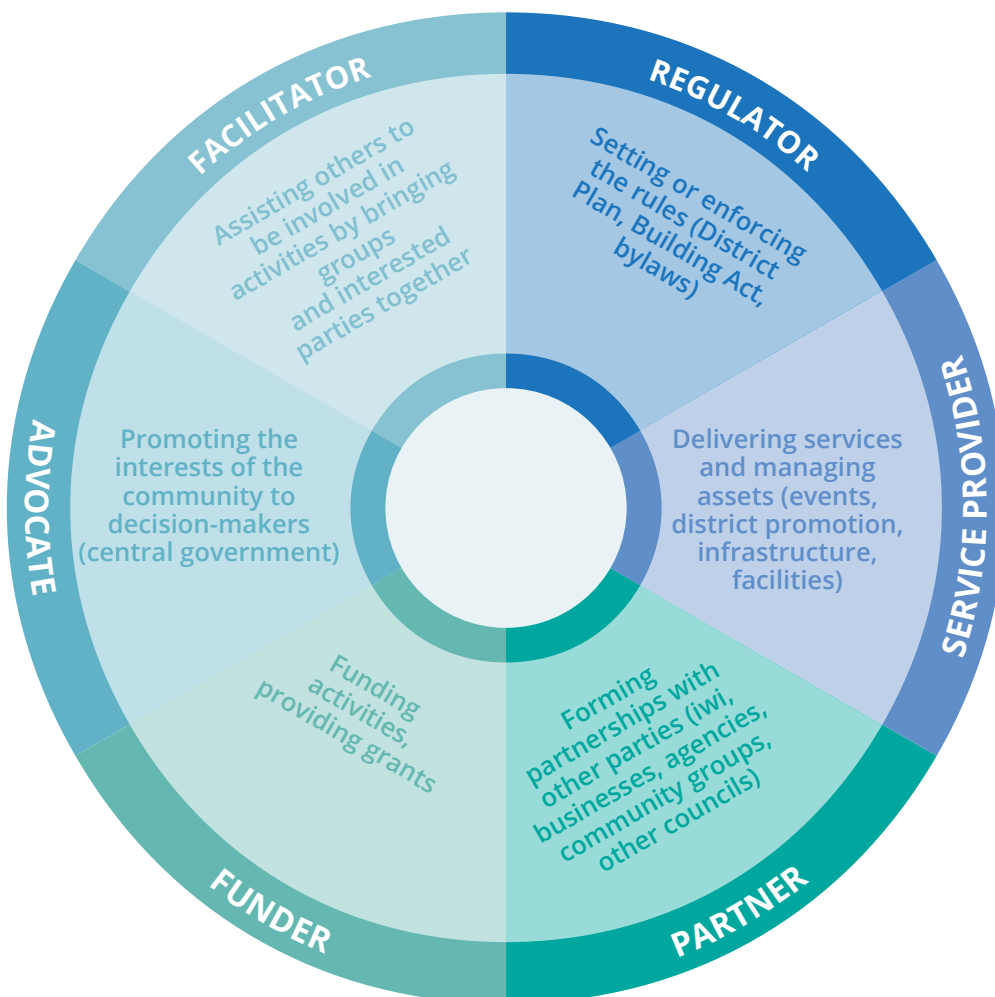
* (i.e. In any given year, 70,000 people come and stay in Rangitikei for a night: 1 night = 1 bed stay)

How Rangitikei District Council contributes to Rangitikei economic growth

Although Rangitikei District Council aspires to be an efficient contributor to Rangitikei economic growth and development, it is important to note the success of Rangitikei Tomorrow is fundamentally centred around all partners working together.

Council acknowledges the wide range of people, businesses, iwi, agencies, and stakeholders involved in economic growth and development in Rangitikei. Working collaboratively is vital to achieving the best outcomes and building a prosperous future.

This strategy does not attempt to cover the roles and activities of all these parties, it focuses on the path forward for Rangitikei District Council. The following outlines how Council currently contributes to the Rangitikei economy as a facilitator, regulator, service provider, partner, funder, and advocate.



Existing programmes that contribute to economic growth

Programme	Description	Council's role
Urban Growth Plan Change	Council is reviewing the rules for residential and rural lifestyle development and rezoning of land to ensure a sufficient supply for the next 30 years	Regulator
Rates Remissions	Ensuring settings for rates remissions have strong ties to economic benefit across the district and ensuring the opportunity to access a remission is well understood from those who could benefit. For example: rates remissions for earthquake –prone buildings and for new dwellings.	Regulator
District Promotion	Enhancing the visibility and appeal of Rangitikei district is a key focus for driving economic growth through more visitors to the district. Current efforts include promoting the district's unique and natural attractions and events through targeted marketing campaigns.	Service provider
Events	Council leads the delivery of Marton Market Day and Harvest Festival. We also support the delivery of community events across the district through sponsorship funding, promotion and in-kind support.	Service provider / Funder
Promoting a healthy business network	Regular contact with businesses through the district including enabling 'Business After 5' events, Shop Local campaigns. Promoting a healthy business network provides an important link between business and Council, which benefits both parties.	Facilitator / Partner
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs	The delivery of this programme through a third party provider is critical to reducing the number of NEET's (16-24 year olds not in employment, education or training) in the district. This programme also facilitates employment opportunities that benefit both residents and employers across the district. The programme has placed over 600 people into work since 2020.	Service provider
Procurement and contract management policy	Council has a procurement policy which considers economic benefit to the district through social procurement, particularly 'Think Local' which speaks to how procurement decisions improve economic outcomes through employment or sustainable business growth.	Regulator / Service provider / Facilitator

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1

Programme	Description	Council's role
Marton Rail Hub	The opportunity to develop a Rail Hub at the Marton Industrial Development Area remains a key piece of work that will undoubtedly unlock economic growth and employment opportunities from a range of new and existing industries.	Partner / Advocate / Regulator
Town Centre revitalisation	Rangitikei town centres are hubs of commercial activity, providing goods and services for residents and local job opportunities. Council is working on a streetscape upgrade plan for Marton while also assisting building owners and businesses to make improvements to the built environment (i.e. painting shop faces and facilitating connections for building redevelopment). Placemaking and wayfinding initiatives are also a key component to the overall vibrancy of our town centres – ensuring residents feel at home in Rangitikei town centre, and visitors to the district are able to navigate to shops and places where they can invest in the local economy.	Facilitator / Service provider / Advocate
Strengthen Iwi relationships	Iwi-led providers are significant and vital contributors to Rangitikei health and social services. Council wishes to strengthen relationships and work in partnership with iwi to enable new and existing business activities. Establishment of papakāinga (communal Māori housing) for urban development growth is also a key Council and iwi partnership opportunity.	Partner
Infrastructure investment	Council invests in infrastructure through a combination of capital and operational expenditure outlined in the Long-Term Plan 2024-34 and supporting documents.	Service provider
Partnerships	Council understands it cannot do this work on its own and needs strong partnerships to support Economic Growth in the district. Examples include Business Rangitikei, Accelerate 35, and MBIE.	Partner

Economic Challenges for the Rangitikei District

Struggling town centres

Our town centres are going through a period of change, with vacant shops, buildings in need of maintenance, and limited new development. The retail sector is declining, with reductions in revenue and employment. Earthquake-prone building requirements are resulting in some buildings being unsafe for occupancy. Thriving town centres are important for attracting businesses and people to our towns.

Reliance on the primary sector

The primary sector contributes to over 30% of the district's GDP, primarily from sheep and beef. A further 5% of GDP is associated with manufacturing activities that are a direct secondary activity from the primary sector (e.g. meat processing). The overreliance on primary industries makes Rangitikei susceptible to heavy fluctuations as this sector experiences highs and lows.

Ageing population

Rangitikei has an ageing population. The median age is 41 years, higher than the Aotearoa New Zealand median of 38 years. Fewer working age people provide a smaller local workforce and talent pool for businesses. There is also a high risk of youth migration to urban areas with perceived greater opportunity. However, there are opportunities to leverage off an ageing population such as the provision of housing and services targeted at their needs.

Thriving town centres are important for attracting businesses and people to our towns.

Skilled workers

Knowledge and skills are generally a reflection of individual opportunities within the labour market. High engagement in the labour market is the most common method for increasing personal wealth. Statistics show that Rangitikei sits below national averages for qualification metrics, meaning opportunities within the labour market for these people could be more limited. Increasing the rate of school leavers going on to pursue higher education is a key challenge.

National and global economic outlook

The Aotearoa New Zealand economy is emerging recession. The recession was created by intentional strict monetary policy after inflation peaked at 7.3% in 2022. Since September 2022, per capita GDP has dropped 4.6% for Aotearoa New Zealand as a whole, making this a larger recession than the global financial crisis.

Recent indications are that the turning point has been reached with annual inflation back within target, interest rates beginning to fall, and consumer and business confidence improving. The outlook for the Aotearoa New Zealand economy is more positive in 2025, although recovery is going to be sluggish with unemployment yet to peak and the current lag between falling interest rates and resultant discretionary spending.

The global economy is a little less certain with power shifting and new alliances being formed. This is generating tension between global superpowers such as the USA and China which will create both challenges and opportunities for Aotearoa New Zealand businesses.

It is important for Rangitikei to keep a close watch on the national and international economic context. It will help us anticipate changes to demand for local goods and services, identify new opportunities for economic growth, assist decision making around infrastructure investment, and ensure we capitalise on opportunities to attract investment from business, individuals, and central government.

Economic Opportunities for the Rangitikei District

Location

Located in the Central North Island, Rangitikei has many opportunities for growth. Southern Rangitikei is within commuting distance to Palmerston North and Whanganui which provides the opportunity for residential growth and access to a wider pool of workers for local businesses.

Rangitikei also has the advantage of access to both State Highway 1 and 3, connecting the district regionally in all directions. Both highways sustain a significant volume of inter-regional freight and motorists. The Taihape-Napier Road also provides a key link with Hawke's Bay.

The extensive Rangitikei rail network (i.e. The North Island Main Trunk Line and the Marton New Plymouth Line) provides ample opportunity to increase industrial activity associated with rail freight, as well as establishing passenger rail services.

Māori economy

Building Rangitikei Tomorrow in partnership with iwi is vital to ensuring diverse views and perspectives.

Rangitikei iwi are in various phases of their Treaty Settlement processes. There are already significant investments in Māori economy (such as in primary industries, environment, education, and health), and this will continue to grow significantly over time. In addition, the Rangitikei Destination Management Plan highlights opportunities associated with Māori tourism experiences.

Lifestyle

Rangitikei offers an enviable small-town lifestyle, with affordable housing, exceptional landscapes, and central location. There is opportunity to get the word out about the benefits of living in Rangitikei. A growing population supports the economic health of the community by increasing local revenue, supporting business growth and creation, and boosting the general busyness and vibrancy of our town centres.

Diversification of the primary sector

Rangitikei has a strong primary sector, with a wide range of climates, topography, and soil types. Opportunities for diversification of the primary sector are broad, including clean energy, cropping, horticulture, and on-farm tourism. Further research into these opportunities is required to appropriately unlock them - including understanding market demand, diversification opportunities and pathways/barriers.



Our Vision

Making this place home

Rangitikei District Council's vision, making this place home, reflects our desire for Council to play its part in ensuring our district is a great place to live, work, and do business.

Rangitikei Tomorrow sets out the economic growth strategy that will support Council to achieve this vision.

Our Foundation

Partnerships

Rangitikei economic growth is reliant on developing strong partnerships.

Working with iwi, sector groups, economic development agencies, and central government to establish initiatives centred around building Rangitikei wealth and wellbeing is vital to the success of Rangitikei Tomorrow. Each partner a role to play, and by working together we can build holistic, long term and sustainable outcomes.

Getting the settings right

Council has a wide range of levers available to make a difference to the local economy and ensure the settings are right for economic growth.

These include infrastructure investment, procurement, funding, delivery of events, planning, business support and advocating for investment, working together with economic players, and setting and implementing the regulatory framework.

Our Economic Goals



A diverse economy

By increasing the skills in our workforce, adding variety to our business offering, and making the most of our location, Rangitikei will be economically resilient.



Healthy and sustainable businesses

By backing Māori business, leading town centre revitalisation, and supporting housing growth, Rangitikei will thrive .



A vibrant district

By making the most of travellers stopping and staying in our district, and promoting events, Rangitikei will be a destination of choice.



A diverse economy

By increasing the skills in our workforce, adding variety to our business offering, and making the most of our location, Rangitikei will be economically resilient.

Our priorities

- Focus on our strengths
- Build our workforce
- Leverage our location



Rangitikei is a primary sector powerhouse, making up 30% of the district's GDP (2023). The primary sector also provides inputs to secondary industries, such as meat processing, which creates an additional 6.5% of GDP in Rangitikei.

The primary sector - in particular sheep and beef and dairy - will continue to be the backbone of the Rangitikei economy moving into the future.

Primary industry dominance makes the Rangitikei economy vulnerable to instability within the sector. In the past few years, primary industries have been through significant challenges, such as high interest rates, cost increases, falling demand and prices, and increasing regulation. Therefore, it is important for Rangitikei to diversify for economic resilience.

A diversified economy creates a wider range of jobs and offers increased choice and employment opportunities. Discussions with local businesses have indicated that finding skilled workers can be difficult, therefore, to support the diversification of the Rangitikei economy, an increased focus on skills development is required.

Leveraging off location and affordability represents a key opportunity for Rangitikei to diversify its economy and capture future growth. In addition, proximity to key logistics infrastructure and suitable land availability make Rangitikei an ideal location for industrial growth.

FOCUS ON OUR STRENGTHS

Primary industries, particularly agriculture, are the powerhouse of the Rangitikei economy and provide the biggest opportunity for diversification. Finding opportunities to add value to raw exports or achieve on-farm diversification is key. Diversification will create more highly skilled jobs and increase the profitability of what we produce. Supportive rural service activities, such as food packaging or contracting businesses, are also an important part of a thriving primary sector.

Rangitikei is already starting to break into new sectors such as clean energy. Rangitikei has significant potential for solar and wind development due to topography, climate, and access to the national grid. The forestry sector has also grown significantly in recent years, with carbon forestry providing opportunities, particularly for Māori landowners with marginal land. However, there is concern from some of our rural communities around protecting

local farming business from large scale forestry conversion.

On-farm diversification will also develop resilience. Expanding into destination experiences such as farm stays, cultural experiences, and boutique accommodation have immense potential. Many tourist buses travel through the Rangitikei regularly and this foot traffic could be more effectively leveraged. Council's role is to develop partnerships and get the regulatory settings right to enable the change already being driven by iwi, individuals, businesses, and agencies.

It is important to note the retention of existing businesses alongside growth opportunities is essential for long term economic health, retaining local and loyal employment for our people, providing local services, and putting money into the local economy.

Waitatapia Station, a sixth-generation family farm near Bulls in New Zealand's Manawātū-Whanganui region, exemplifies innovation and diversification in the primary sector. Managed by brothers Hew and Roger Dalrymple, the 2,200-hectare operation integrates arable cropping, livestock finishing, forestry, and fresh vegetable production. Roger oversees livestock operations, annually finishing approximately 30,000 lambs and 3,500 beef cattle, while Hew manages cropping and forestry, including 36 woodlots totalling over 300 hectares. The farm cultivates cereals like wheat, maize, and barley, and has recently expanded into fresh vegetables such as cabbages, broccoli, and cauliflower, supplying local processors in the region.

Sustainability practices include GPS-guided machinery, soil moisture probes, and minimum tillage to protect the farm's sandy soils. Wetlands have been fenced and protected, and the farm utilizes chicken manure and other bioactives to enhance soil health, rotational forestry protects and enhances all the sandy dunes.



● Crop fields at Waitatapia Station

36

The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) in Rangitikei District is a collaborative initiative between the Rangitikei District Council, Local Government New Zealand and the Ministry of Social Development, aimed at strengthening the local workforce by supporting young people aged 16–24, particularly those not in education, employment, or training (NEETs). The program offers tailored assistance, including CV development, interview preparation, driver licensing, and access to training and short courses. It also provides ongoing pastoral care to ensure sustained employment. For employers, MTFJ facilitates recruitment, offers wage subsidies, and supports training needs, helping small businesses onboard and retain young workers. This initiative not only addresses youth unemployment but also contributes to the district's economic resilience by fostering meaningful employment opportunities. Since inception, it has helped over 600 young people into sustainable employment across the district.



MTFJ successful placement - Ngairi-anne at work.

BUILD OUR WORKFORCE

Building a skilled workforce is key to supporting individual economic prosperity and the diversification of our economy. Higher qualifications and educational attainment provide greater opportunities in the labour market and higher incomes offer greater choice in how residents live their lives in Rangitikei.

Rangitikei currently sits below the New Zealand average for qualification metrics and income. Local businesses struggle to recruit skilled staff, and for diversification within our economy to be achievable, access to skilled labour is essential.

To address this skill shortage, there are a number of providers delivering education, training, and skills development programmes in Rangitikei. One provider is Te Puna. Established in 2020,

Te Puna provides iwi, hapū and hāpori with a range of tools and opportunities to achieve their education and employment aspirations. The initiative works with a range of partners to deliver courses and services from the Te Poho o Tuariki assessment centre.

Council's role in building our workforce is to foster relationships between education providers, employers, and agencies - connecting them to the right people at the right time. Council holds valuable knowledge of industries with skilled worker shortages and sets the regulatory environment to develop Rangitikei as a great place to call home.

LEVERAGE OUR LOCATION

Many opportunities for economic diversification could be realised through the central location of Rangitikei and its connection to primary industries, tourism, and opportunities for population growth.

Rangitikei has strong accessibility to the wider North Island:

- **Road:** Access to State Highways 1 and 3
 - Commutable distances to Whanganui and Palmerston North
 - Key centres such as Napier, Wellington, New Plymouth and Taupo only 2 – 3 hours drive
- **Railway:** The North Island Main Trunk Line and Marton New Plymouth Line.

This accessibility has potential to be better leveraged in a range of different ways.

- Logistics and manufacturing are key industries where our district's locational advantage would be attractive for investment. Recent focus has been on industrial rail opportunities; however, further work is required to understand the unique proposition to make the most out of our locational advantage.
- Rangitikei is still establishing itself as a tourism destination. The natural environment combined with our location makes the district an obvious choice for tourism-based activities utilising both road and rail.
- The district needs to be open and ready for business, with enough zoned and serviced land available in the right place to meet market needs.
- Building relationships with iwi, our neighbouring councils, Central Government agencies and other stakeholders is essential to maximise opportunities for all parties.

Situated adjacent to both State Highway 1 and the North Island Main Trunk railway line, the Marton Industrial Development Area offers seamless connectivity for freight movement across the country. The development of the Marton Rail Hub capitalizes on this prime positioning, facilitating efficient transportation of goods, particularly for the forestry and agricultural sectors prevalent in the region.

By integrating road and rail networks, the hub aims to streamline supply chains, reduce transportation costs, and alleviate road congestion by shifting freight to rail. This infrastructure not only enhances Marton's role in national logistics but also stimulates local economic growth through job creation and attracting related industries



Marton Industrial Development Area offers seamless connectivity for freight movement across the country.

Staff surveying the Makirikiri Road site



Healthy and sustainable businesses

By backing Māori business, leading town centre revitalisation, and supporting housing growth, Rangitīkei will thrive.

Our priorities

- Backing Māori business
- Revitalise our town centres
- Housing as an enabler



Healthy and sustainable businesses are essential to economic prosperity in Rangitīkei. Businesses provide employment opportunities for the local community and support individual prosperity, which is often invested back into the community.

Businesses also provide local services for the community and contribute to town vibrancy by filling buildings and attracting even more people to shop and spend locally. Rangitīkei is home to a proportionally high number of small businesses compared to the national average. There is great opportunity to celebrate these businesses as key contributors to the vibrancy of Rangitīkei.

BACKING MĀORI BUSINESS

Māori businesses are a core component of our business landscape with significant growth opportunities. There were 102 Māori owned businesses¹ in Rangitikei in the year to March 2021, accounting for 14% of all businesses. The share of Māori businesses in Rangitikei was greater than in Aotearoa New Zealand (11%).

Māori business represents a significant opportunity for growth, particularly as Rangitikei iwi complete their Treaty Settlement processes.

By supporting Māori business development, we support a holistic and integrated approach to economic activity that supports wider wellbeing and long-term sustainability. From small businesses and solo entrepreneurs to collective enterprises, there is untapped potential. By backing, enabling, and supporting economic development, council supports the growth of Rangitikei as a diverse, dynamic and innovative place to do business.

Māori business
represents
a significant
opportunity
for growth



20

¹ A Māori business is a business with at least one owner of Māori ethnicity and/or descent.

Picture of the farming operations



Engaged and proactive commercial building owners can make a significant difference to the vibrancy of our town centres. Under new ownership the Marton Post Office building has seen new life with a clean, paint and fit out ready for retail. The impact of these improvements has resulted in at least three new retailers moving into the building generating increased foot traffic and vibrancy to a corner of town that was previously looking tired and run down.

REVITALISE OUR TOWN CENTRES

Vibrant town centres are foundational to the enjoyment, sense of place and economic success of Rangitikei. Town centres are hubs of economic activity where our communities come together, and we celebrate our local identity.

However, Rangitikei retail sector is struggling. The large number of run-down and earthquake-prone buildings throughout the district are creating vacancies and exponentially impacting external investment. Active intervention is needed to ensure our retail sector is nationally competitive, and an attractive and lucrative place to do business.

Vibrant town centres are key to retaining youth, attracting skilled workers to the district, and encouraging tourists to experience and stay in Rangitikei.

Our town centres are hubs for local events, festivals, and markets, offering opportunities to celebrate and showcase our local identity to a wider audience.

Thousands of people pass through Rangitikei every day. Welcoming town centres entice them to stop, spend, and invest in the Rangitikei economy.

Streetscape upgrades in Taihape, Marton and Bulls are a great first step towards greater town vibrancy in Rangitikei. It is also important that we get our regulatory settings right to enable an increasingly diverse range of activities to establish.

HOUSING AS AN ENABLER

Affordable and high-quality housing is an essential enabler as the Rangitikei economy grows and diversifies.

A lack of quality housing in Taihape is creating a barrier for businesses to find skilled workers. While living in Rangitikei and working outside is possible in Southern towns (i.e. Marton and Bulls) due to commutable distances to main centres (such as Palmerston North and Whanganui), this is not as easy in the Northern part of the district. Without quality housing in Northern Rangitikei, there is less likely to be long-term business investment and skilled worker migration. Quality housing in Northern Rangitikei is key to unlocking economic development in this part of the district.

Looking to housing opportunities across

Rangitikei, our housing stock is predominantly three-bedroom stand-alone dwellings.

Housing diversification, including increasing appropriate town centre living is necessary to provide for future growth. For example, with our population projected to continue ageing, provision of suitable elderly housing to enable this demographic to live centrally within our town centres is needed.

Working with iwi to support the development of papakāinga housing throughout Rangitikei is another key lever that will diversify our housing stock and bring people back into these areas.

Housing affordability in comparison to our neighbours is a key attractor/point of difference. Sufficient housing supply is essential to ensure house prices remain affordable, enabling first home buyers to enter the market and subsequently invest their discretionary income back into the Rangitikei economy.

Housing affordability in comparison to our neighbours is a key attractor/point of difference.

Hereford Heights in Marton demonstrates how housing can drive economic growth. By developing over 80 new residential sections, the subdivision has attracted a diverse mix of residents—from families seeking larger homes to retirees wanting low-maintenance living. This growth in housing supply has directly supported population increase, fueling demand for local services and amenities. The construction phase created jobs and boosted related industries, while the completed homes have encouraged further investment and development in the area. As a result, Hereford Heights has played a key role in strengthening the district's economy through thoughtful, inclusive, and strategic housing expansion.



A vibrant district

By making the most of travellers stopping and staying in our district, and promoting events, Rangitikei will be a destination of choice.

Our priorities

- Support our events
- Encourage people to stay
- Become a stop of choice



Tourism in Rangitikei is an area with significant economic opportunity. Tourism represents 2.5% of the district's GDP, compared with 3.5% nationally and has been growing at a slower rate than average.

Our natural landscape, excellent accessibility, and unique cultural identity offers an exciting base for tourism development.

Strengthening Rangitikei tourism will put more money into the local economy, provide job opportunities, and attract more people to the district.

The Rangitikei District Council Destination Management Plan (2022) sets out investment and work programmes in this area. The two key themes are:

- **Manaaki tangata – care for our people**
- **Manaaki whenua – care for our land**



Events such as the Harvest Festival, Marton Market Day, The Shemozzle, Gumboot Day in Taihape, and Fest-a-Bull in Bulls significantly contribute to the economic growth of Rangitikei. These popular community gatherings attract thousands of visitors, boosting local tourism and increasing spending at local businesses. They showcase the district's unique culture and identity, drawing attention to local food, art, and traditions.

Supporting these events creates employment opportunities, promotes regional pride, and encourages investment in the hospitality and retail sectors. By fostering vibrant, well-attended events, Rangitikei enhances community engagement while driving economic activity that benefits both residents and local business across the district.

SUPPORT OUR EVENTS

Events provide a range of benefits for our communities, including economic growth. Events deliver an immediate economic benefit to the district by bringing in spending from out-of-town visitors. Successful events also provide long term economic benefit by raising the profile of Rangitikei and its local businesses, encouraging people to return to shop, visit or live after the event.

Rangitikei hosts a range of regionally significant and successful events throughout the year: The Shemozzle, Marton Market Day, Taihape Spring Fling, and Turakina Highland games.

These events attract thousands of visitors from across the wider region who provide economic benefit and vibrancy to our towns. Continuing to support and amplify these events through considered marketing campaigns is a key opportunity.



Awastone accommodation

ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO STAY

Destination experiences are a key opportunity for business growth and diversification in Rangitikei. People travel through Rangitikei everyday as they travel around New Zealand. Encouraging them to stop for an activity or stay for a night will support local business and enable tourism sector growth.

Leveraging our natural environment and offering cultural experiences are key opportunities identified in the Rangitikei Destination Management Plan (2022). These opportunities include boutique rural accommodation, back country scenic roads, activities on our river, or experiences in our stunning and diverse landscapes.

Key to supporting destination experiences across the district is town centres that are vibrant, attractive and equipped with amenities. Appropriate places to stay, well equipped toilets, and quality food and beverage stores all support Rangitikei as a tourism destination.

Opportunities include further research regarding accommodation opportunities and shortages, and strategic ways council can market Rangitikei as a tourism destination.

Rangitikei Farmstay, situated on a 630-hectare sheep and beef farm near Marton, New Zealand, has successfully diversified its income by integrating tourism into its operations. Owners transformed historic farm buildings into guest accommodations and offer authentic rural experiences such as animal feeding, garden tours, and pony rides. They also host large tour groups, including international visitors, providing activities like shearing demonstrations and BBQ lunches.

The farmstay further boosts revenue through annual events like the Mudder obstacle race. This agritourism model not only supplements traditional farming income but also educates visitors about rural New Zealand life



Hunterville Huntaway Dog Statue

Small towns like Taihape, Bulls, and Hunterville in New Zealand exemplify how placemaking can transform communities into must-visit destinations. Taihape, known as the "Gumboot Capital of the World," celebrates its identity with a giant corrugated iron gumboot sculpture and the annual Gumboot Day festival, featuring gumboot throwing competitions that attract visitors nationwide. Bulls leverages its name through witty signage—like "Consta-bull" for the police station—creating a playful atmosphere that entices travelers to stop and explore. Hunterville honors its agricultural roots with the Shepherd's Shemozzle, a unique obstacle race pairing shepherds and their huntaway dogs, drawing thousands of spectators each year. By embracing local culture and humor, these towns create engaging experiences that encourage travelers to pause, participate, and appreciate the community spirit.



Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre



Taihape Gumboot Statue



Walker Park - Bulls

BECOME A STOP OF CHOICE

Rangitikei is centrally located with both State Highway 1 and 3 running through the district. At least 15,000 vehicles travel through Rangitikei every day.

Enticing these travellers to stop is a key opportunity for local business growth and employment, particularly for towns such as Taihape, Mangaweka, Hunterville, Bulls and Turakina. Each of these towns has a unique offering depending on traveller needs. Clearly defining this offering, and effectively marketing it, is key to encouraging increased foot traffic.

Essential to becoming a stop of choice is providing vibrant town centres, with welcoming entrances, where people want to stop and spend time. It is also important we provide high quality and well maintained visitor services such as toilets, playgrounds, clear signage, and easy parking.

Implementation

Successful implementation of **Rangitikei Tomorrow** is dependent on collaboration between Council, iwi, business, agencies, and the community. While the actions outlined in the Action Plan below focus on Council's roles and influence, working collectively will generate the best long-term outcomes for Rangitikei.

Monitoring progress will deliver insights on the success of actions and ensure that we stay on track. Success will be evaluated by assessing the effectiveness of each action, with learnings implemented into future initiatives.

Actions and projects delivered under Rangitikei Tomorrow will have their own success measures - appropriate to the purpose of the action. Examples of success indicators could be:

- Increase in GDP across the district at a rate faster than the region and/or country
- Increase in the employment market
- Decrease in the number of NEET's
- Improved diversity in the economy
- More council procurement spend going to Rangitikei-based and owned businesses

The adoption and implementation of **Rangitikei Tomorrow** does not commit Council to any additional funding. Some of the actions can be funded through the existing work programmes, while some actions may require additional funding. Additional funding could be secured through grants, donations or increased investment from Council into economic development initiatives. Additional funding requirements will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Action Plan

A diverse economy

Focus on our strengths

Action
Review successful programmes that have supported primary sector diversification and resilience in other regions.
Work with the primary sector, iwi, businesses and stakeholders to develop and implement a diversification strategy for Rangitikei.
Support Business Rangitikei to develop a sustainable business network where businesses in the district thrive.
Complete a needs and opportunity assessment to understand existing commercial business offerings and gaps in the market.
Ensure Council's procurement policies consider the wider benefits of local procurement in decision making.
Work alongside local businesses to outline a pipeline of Council projects that will enable local businesses to successfully tender for work.

Build our workforce







Action
Work in partnership with key stakeholders to design a workforce development, attraction and retention programme tailored to industries that Rangitikei wants to attract.
Support our young people to become work ready through the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) programme by working with them to achieve micro-credentials (e.g. driver licencing, healthy and safety accreditations).
Create a recruitment network to match workers to job opportunities within the Rangitikei as part of the MTFJ Programme.




Leverage our location







Action
Commission a 'value proposition' study that identifies opportunities for growth of key sectors that would benefit from the competitive advantage of our location (e.g. logistics, warehousing, manufacturing).
Promote Rangitikei as a location based on the outcomes of the 'value proposition' study.
Undertake a 'lost opportunity' study regarding regional industrial growth.
Monitor supply and demand of business land and buildings.
Invest in three waters infrastructure to ensure that supplies have the capacity to accommodate business growth (particularly industrial growth).
Rezone land as required to ensure a continuous 30 year commercial and industrial land supply.

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1

ongoing, short, medium, long

Council's role	Timeframe	
Facilitator		Short term
Facilitator		Short term
Partner		Ongoing
Facilitator		Short term
Service Provider		Medium term
Partner		Medium term

Council's role	Timeframe	
Facilitator		Medium term
Partner		Short term
Partner		Short term

Council's role	Timeframe	
Facilitator		Medium term
Facilitator		Long term
Facilitator		Medium term
Facilitator		Ongoing
Service Provider		Ongoing
Service Provider		Ongoing

*Healthy and sustainable businesses***Back Māori business**

Action
Continue to advocate for access to landlocked land.
Connection between new business growth and iwi.
Review the sustainable procurement settings within the Rangitīkei District Council Procurement and Contract Management Policy to ensure sufficient weight is given to Māori business opportunities from Council investment.
Respond to Māori economic growth aspirations in ways identified by Māori.

Revitalise our town centres

Action
Investigate opportunities for the establishment of grants and incentives to support building owners to maintain and upgrade retail frontages (such as façade improvements).
Review rates remission settings for commercial building owners completing façade improvements, strengthening or redevelopment of buildings.
Lead streetscape upgrade projects in the town centres of Marton, Bulls, and Taihape.
Provide education and resources to building owners that guide the improvement, strengthening or redevelopment of buildings in the town centres.
Invest in ongoing maintenance to ensure Council-owned assets are contributing positively to the town image.

Housing as an enabler

Action
Work with building owners to encourage appropriate (above ground or secondary) residential development in town centres to support mixed use environments.
Monitor residential land supply and demand.
Rezone land as required to ensure a continuous 30 year residential and rural lifestyle land supply.
Review the District Plan approach for papakāinga development.
Review the District Plan approach for infill, retirement, and medium density housing.
Invest in three waters infrastructure to enable projected residential growth.
Work collaboratively with local developers to encourage a variety of housing types, including retirement housing.

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1

ongoing, short, medium, long

Council's role	Timeframe	
Partner	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Service Provider	⌚	Medium term
Partner	▶▶▶	Ongoing

Council's role	Timeframe	
Funder	⌚	Short term
Funder	⌚	Medium term
Facilitator	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Facilitator	⌚	Medium term
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing

Council's role	Timeframe	
Partner	📅	Long term
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Regulator	⌚	Medium term
Regulator	📅	Long term
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Partner	▶▶▶	Ongoing

A vibrant district**Support our events****Action**

Provide direct and indirect support for events that enhance community engagement and visitor attraction.

Encourage events and activations in public spaces – town centres, parks.

Continue to support events through Council's Events Support Scheme, prioritising those that stimulate local business activity and showcase the Rangitikei.

Build the profile of Visit Rangitikei and promote events through:

- Visit Rangitikei web page
- Visit Rangitikei social media platforms.
- Council platforms.

Encourage people to stay**Action**

Work with the tourism sector to develop a trade offering.

Develop a marketing narrative for the Rangitikei and invest in marketing and promotion activities.

Update the Visit Rangitikei website and promote it as the key visitor guide for Rangitikei.

Undertake a visitor accommodation study that identifies shortages and opportunities.

Work alongside mana whenua and the community to tell local stories e.g. interpretation panels along local walkways.

Work with organisations developing cycleways to support and promote the visitor economy

Strengthen information centres as key hubs for promoting local and regional attractions.

Work collaboratively with the North Island Main Trunk Railway Group to promote the reinstatement and development of passenger services on the North Island Main Trunk Line.

Become a stop of choice**Action**

Enhance the entrances to our towns to increase available amenities, align with the unique identity of each Rangitikei town, and improve the sense of arrival.

Improve pedestrian connections and wayfinding within towns to encourage visitors to walk around the town.

Invest in and maintain infrastructure that supports travellers (e.g. seating, toilets, bus stops, signs charging stations, convenient parking, open space, town centres).

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1

ongoing, short, medium, long

Council's role	Timeframe	
Funder	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Partner	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Funder	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing

Council's role	Timeframe	
Facilitator	🕒	Short term
Service Provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Service Provider	🕒	Short term
Facilitator	⌚	Medium term
Partner	⌚	Medium term
Partner	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Service provider	▶▶▶	Ongoing
Advocate	⌚	Medium term

Council's role	Timeframe	
Service Provider	⌚	Medium term
Service Provider	⌚	Medium term
Service Provider	📅	Long term

ITEM 10.1 ATTACHMENT 1





10.2 Economic Update**Author:** Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead**Authoriser:** Katrina Gray, Group Manager - Strategy, Community and Democracy**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Policy / Planning Committee with an economic update for the district and the key actions Officers are taking to support business and the district.

2. Local Insights and Update

- 2.1 The quarterly economic indicators for March have been released. The link for the March update is attached. Some key insights are provided below:
- 2.1.1 The Rangitikei District continues to outperform the Regional and National numbers for GDP performance. While our district contracted 0.4%, both Manawatu Whanganui and the New Zealand economy is estimated to have contracted by 1.1% for the year to March 2025.
 - 2.1.2 Consumer spending and retail transactions continue to decline in the district back 5.9% for the year. A lack of discretionary money in budgets continues to be the main driver with everyday essentials like food, petrol, power, rates and insurance taking up larger portions of household incomes.
 - 2.1.3 The uplift in new dwelling activity has continued with 10 more residential consents in the year to March 2025 compared to a year earlier. Commercial consents have shown small increases in the quarter but continue to be below the March 2024 numbers and the 10-year average.
 - 2.1.4 The housing market continues to show signs of recovery in terms of the number of properties sold month on month increasing while new house listings have stabilised. As a result of previous listing numbers growing faster than the rate of sale, we still have an oversupply of properties for sale which has led to a decline in house prices of 3.8% and the current average house price in the district is \$367,495.
 - 2.1.5 The primary sector, mainly sheep and beef, have been doing very well with increased returns off the back of strong international demand and a low New Zealand dollar. With over 20% of the districts GDP coming from this segment, it is welcomed news however it should be noted that this sector has been facing headwinds for some time and the improved returns in the rural sector may take some time to result in wider economic benefit.
 - 2.1.6 Employment rates for the district remain low at 4.0% at the same time the number of filled jobs by residents has declined. This represents a shrinking of the employment market with fewer jobs available mostly in the construction, retail and hospitality sectors.
- 2.2 At the end of May, the Reserve Bank of New Zealand agreed to a reduction in the official cash rate of 0.25% to 3.25%.

2.2.1 This reduction was in line with many economists' predictions and in keeping with the signals given in April.

2.2.2 The rationale for this rate reduction was based on inflation expectations remaining within target, global uncertainty and tariffs creating uncertainty, domestic economic recovery and the level of capacity in the economy.

2.3 Inflation is currently sitting at 2.5% with a projected lift to 2.7% in Q3 2025.

2.3.1 Non-tradables remain stubbornly high at 4.0% on an annual basis. This includes costs like rent, rates, insurance and the cost of purchasing a new home.

2.3.2 However, the costs of tradables have seen a much more modest increase of 0.3% annually. This is items like imported goods and services which have shown signs of easing however the impact of the US tariffs is still creating uncertainty.

3. Business Rangitikei

3.1 Business After 5pm events continue to be well supported across the district.

3.2 Their event schedule is fully booked out through until early 2026.

3.3 The current MOU between Council and Business Rangitikei was due for renewal in April. Agreement on the renewal has been reached and we expect to have this finalised in June. This delay in getting the MOU renewal completed has not caused any negative impact to the delivery of BA 5's in the district.

4. Mayor Taskforce for Jobs

4.1 The outstanding performance of James Towers Consultants Limited in our district has continued with current numbers now exceeding 110 placements making the district the highest performing programme in the country.

4.2 Revisions to the programme for FY25/26 are now finalised and there are some changes to the programme that differ from previous years. The key changes are:

4.2.1 A clear focus on working with young MSD clients (18-24 years), prioritising those on the jobseeker benefit. A target of 80% of placements to come from this segment.

4.2.2 A minimum of 70% sustainability meaning those placed in work are off benefit for at least 6 months. This is a change from the existing contract which required 3 months sustainable employment to be classified as sustainable.

4.2.3 A total of 35 placements of which 30 to be young MSD clients off benefit.

4.3 The number of 18-24 year olds currently on the benefit in our district is 225.

4.4 Conversations have been held with James Towers Consultants Limited throughout this period of change and are prepared for operating under the new requirements of the programme. It is widely expected this will make delivering outcomes more difficult and placement numbers will come down as a result, however our team locally are committed to delivering against the contract requirements and continuing to provide the valuable service to the community as they always have done.

5. Town Centre Better Off FundingBulls

- 5.1 The maps are with the printer and will be put up in key locations once they have been printed.
- 5.2 The mural at the chemist wall has been completed and early feedback from the community has been very positive.



- 5.3 The remaining rubbish bins have been refurbished and placed back on the footpaths.
- 5.4 Additional wayfinding signage is being proposed and has been worked on with the help of Bulls and District Community Trust. These will be completed by August 2025.

- 5.5 Additional work is being looked at for improvements to the space on the corner of Bridge Street and Criterion Street opposite Te Matapihi. This could include improved street furniture, planting and shade. Once a plan for this area is finalised, it will be shared with the committee.

Taihape

- 5.6 The first draft of the Taihape map has been completed and circulated internally before going out to the community for input.
- 5.7 The work to build a shelter at the picnic area beside the gumboot throwing lane is sitting with the property team. Purchasing of materials as begun and construction will be done with the assistance of students from Taihape Area School.
- 5.8 An additional initiative for Taihape is potential for a Disc / Frisbee golf course. This is in early stages and being led by the Northern Youth Advisor. More information will be shared once a plan has been prepared.

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1 This report is for information purposes and there are no financial implications relating to this item.

7. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 7.1 There are no impact on strategic risks relating to this report.

8. Strategic Alignment

- 8.1 Economic Wellbeing is a Community Outcome and Town Centre Revitalisation is a Strategic Priority within Council's Strategic Framework giving this item strong strategic alignment, while noting the report is an update and no decisions are required through this report.

9. Mana Whenua Implications

- 9.1 There are no mana whenua implications relating to this report.

10. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

- 10.1 There are no climate change impacts and considerations relating to this report.

11. Statutory Implications

- 11.1 There are no statutory implications relating to this report.

12. Decision Making Process

- 12.1 This item is for update purposes and no decisions are required because of this report.

Recommendation

That the report 'Economic Update' is received.

10.3 Regulatory Update

Author: Johan Cullis, Group Manager Regulatory Services and Emergency Management

Authoriser: Carol Gordon, Chief Executive

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Committee with an update regarding Regulatory matters across the District.

2. Context

Determinations:

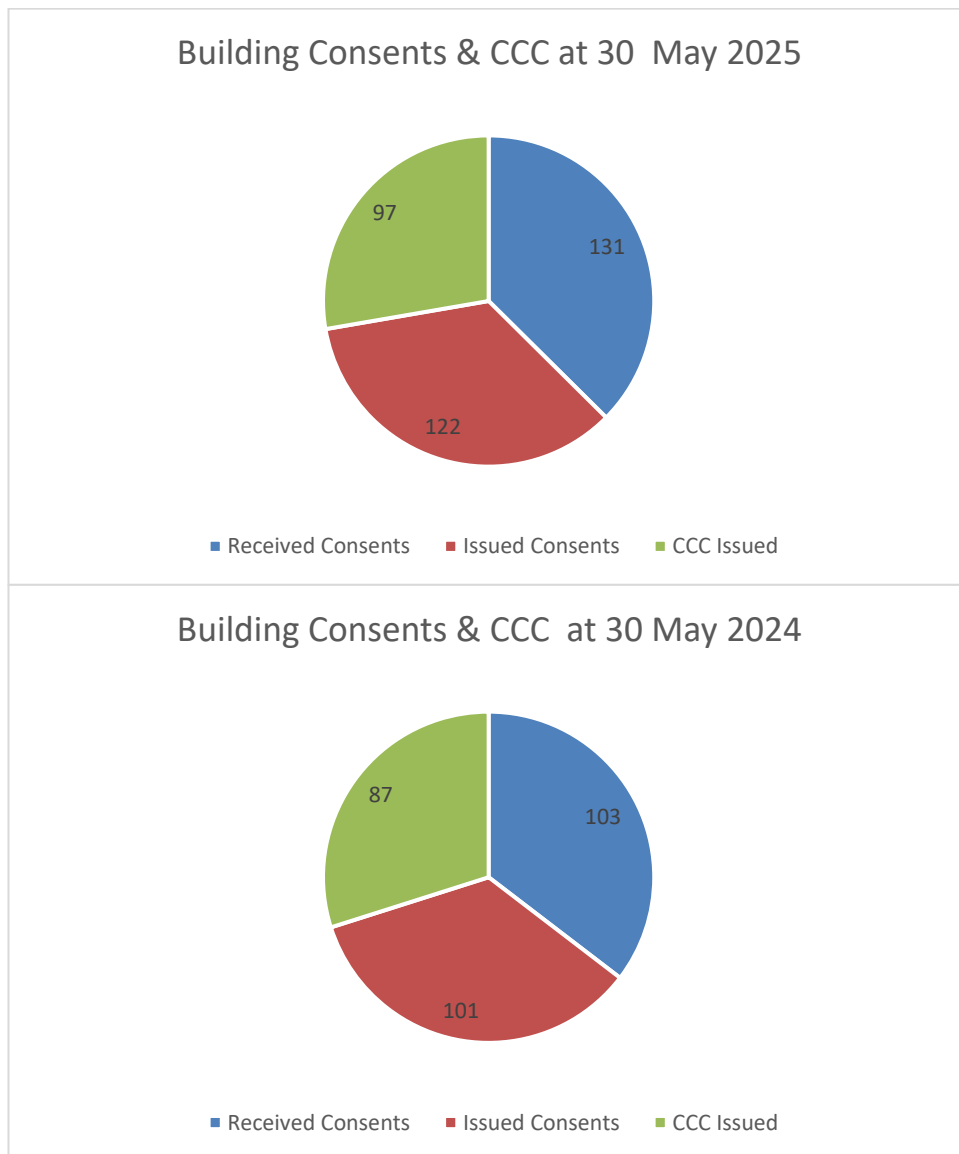
- 2.1 Determinations are a mechanism under the Building Act 2004 which allows parties to apply to the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE) to determine disputes in relation to applying the Building Act, Building code, Regulations and standards.
- 2.2 The Building team received a complaint about structures/buildings being built on a property in the Taihape West Slip Zone. During the investigation the team discovered that three separate structures/buildings had been built ranging in size from about 10 to 30 square meters.
- 2.3 The two smaller structures/buildings were found that one contained a toilet and the other a shower, the larger of the three structures was occupied and used for human habitation/living.
- 2.4 The team has been dealing with the absent owners (overseas) for some time now and the matter has escalated from letter to Notice to Fix (three) and two infringements. The notices to fix alleges non compliance with section 17 and 40 of the Building Act (Building is not in accordance with the Building Code and No Building Consent).
- 2.5 The owners have now applied to MBIE to determine if the buildings/structures require building consent under section 40 of the Building Act 2004 as they advocate that the building work undertaken is exempt.
- 2.6 It however needs to be noted that although there are many exemptions under the Building Act 2004 to meet this, the exemption work undertaken must meet **ALL** requirements for that specific building work including meeting the Building code.
- 2.7 All submissions have been sent to MBIE in early December 2024, at the date of this report the determination is yet to be assigned to a case officer.

3. Impacts/Changes in Building Team environment

- 3.1 In recent months there have been several different impacts in the building sector some which is driven by Central Government in relation to proposed legislative changes, being more exemptions (Granny Flats), remote inspections, self-certifying and nationalising/regionalising Building Consent Authorities. MBIE, in a recent update to staff, have indicated they have received submissions on these various topics and are

currently working on a document for the Minister with recommendations on how to progress these matters.

- 3.2 MBIE have recently advised that they aim to have the “Granny Flat” exemptions in place by early 2026.
- 3.3 Building work across the sector is still decreasing with the total annual value of building work consented declining from \$28.5 billion in the 12 months to April to \$26.9 billion in the 12 months to April this year - a drop of 5.8%. The decline has been particularly severe for residential construction with the number of new homes being consented declining for three years in a row - an overall decline of 23.1% in total consented value.
- 3.4 Our District however is still seeing an increase in consent numbers, as at 30 May 2025 we have received 131 new consents, issued 122 consents and 97 Cod Compliance Certificates (CCC's) compared to last year. At 30 May 2024 we received 103 consents, issued 101 consents and issued 87 CCC's.



4. BCA Accreditation Audit

- 4.1 The Building Consent Authority underwent a routine two yearly accreditation audit, undertaken by Accreditation International New Zealand (IANZ) during 18-20 February

ITEM 10.3

2025 to determine compliance with the requirements of the Building (Accreditation of Building Consent Authorities) Regulations 2006.

- 4.2 During the audit the BCA received no serious non-compliances, 16 non-compliances, 20 recommendations and 5 advisory notes. To continue being an accredited BCA the 16 non-compliance have to be addressed and cleared within three months of receiving the audit report, being 6 June 2025. Recommendations do not have timeframes, but if they are not actioned in some manner may turn into a non-compliance at the next routine audit. Advisory notes are just that and require no action and are optional (BCA decision) to include within the audit report.
- 4.3 All 16 non-compliances have now been addressed and accepted by IANZ, the BCA is awaiting formal accreditation, which indicates the BCA remains low risk and the next audit will be 2027.
- 4.4 At the last meeting questions were raised in relation to the action plan and how or if the Chief Executive is involved or kept informed. It was thought that by providing members a general overview of the entire audit process, that this may provide more certainty around the process and addressing non-compliance matters.
- 4.5 The accreditation regime was implemented in 2007 and was based around meeting Regulations 1 - 18 of the Building (Accreditation of Building Consent Authorities) Regulations 2006.
- 4.6 Regulations 1 - 4 are administrative and deal with the Title of the Regulations, Commencement, Interpretation and standards and criteria for accreditation.
- 4.7 Regulations 5 - 18 address three main criteria - which are **Business as Usual, Annual Review** and **Assessment**.
- 4.8 **Business as Usual:** Regulation 5 – Policies, Procedures and systems have to be suitable and available in hard copy or electronically. Evidence is required to show they are consistently and effectively implemented, are written in appropriate detail and readily accessible.
- 4.9 **Regulation 6** - making and recording decisions relating to your policies, procedures are recorded.
- 4.10 **Regulation 6A** - notifying MBIE and IANZ about changes that could impact on your ability to retain accreditation.
- 4.11 **Regulation 7** – Building Control functions - Policies, procedures and systems for the primary functions relating to outputs, such as information, receiving and processing applications, inspecting building work, certifying the completed work and other BCA functions. It ensures appropriate quality and consistent decisions are made by a competent workforce.
- 4.12 **Regulation 9** – Allocating work, confirms all work is allocated to staff or contractors who are competent to do the work.
- 4.13 **Regulation 11** – Training – ensuring any employees doing technical jobs can maintain their skills and knowledge and can be monitored against a training plan. Training undertaken is linked to resource planning and competency assessment records.
- 4.14 **Regulation 12** – Contractors – Making sure any contractors performing building control functions by doing a technical job have competent and qualified people to perform those functions.

- 4.15 **Regulation 13** – Technical Leadership – Decisions are made with technical accuracy, by having a system with powers and authorities granted to nominated technical leaders.
- 4.16 **Regulation 14** – Resources – There are the necessary resources, facilities and technical equipment required to perform the building control functions effectively.
- 4.17 **Regulation 15** – Organisational records – Maintaining a record of the organisational structure showing powers, authorities, roles and responsibilities granted to staff and contractors.
- 4.18 **Regulation 16** - Filing Consents - there is a system for secure storage and retrieval of all appropriate information relating to building consents.
- 4.19 **Regulation 17** – Assuring Quality – Ensure the quality assurance and continuous improvement system is operational and covers all building control functions. Including the ability to implement appropriate changes effectively.
- 4.20 **Regulation 18** – Qualifications – BCA employees and contractors doing technical roles hold or are working their way towards an appropriate qualification.
- 4.21 **Annual review** – These functions need to be reviewed or undertaken at least annually -
Regulation 8 – Resources – Sufficient staff and contractors to perform your building control functions, forecasting future workflow.
- 4.22 **Regulation 11** – Training – Confirm training needs assessments are undertaken for both the organisation and each individual, and documented training plan.
- 4.23 **Regulation 12** – Contractors – Make sure an annual assessment of competency of all contractors performing building control functions. Contractor needs to provide appropriate information to enable to make a decision about their competency and performance.
- 4.24 **Regulation 17** – Internal Audits- Internal audit of each building control function.
- 4.25 **Assessment** – Completing Business as usual and annual reviews means the two yearly assessment should run smoothly.
- 4.26 **Regulation 10 - Competency Assessment** – Assessing the competency of all employees performing BCA functions, it is linked to training needs, forecast workflow and capacity and capability.
- 4.27 The internal audits and IANZ audits have checksheets for each regulation and detail to cover over 378 items in total, in relation to IANZ audits, CEs can attend the introduction and exit interview. The final audit report is also provided to those staff including the CE, whom holds the following roles for the BCA, Responsible Manager, Authorised Representative and Quality Assurance Manager.
- 4.28 The CE is also provided with a strategic review (internal process) in July every year to ensure the BCA is checking how we are meeting and tracking our progress against all accreditation regulations.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 6.1 There are no impacts on Councils strategic risks.

7. Strategic Alignment

- 7.1 There are no matters that impact on Councils strategic framework associated with this report.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

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

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

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

10. Statutory Implications

- 10.1 The two yearly BCA accreditation audit is required by the Building (Accreditation of Building Consent Authorities) Regulations 2006, the audit was carried out under this legislation.

11. Decision Making Process

- 11.1 This item is for information only and no decisions are required.

Recommendation

That the Regulatory Update report be received.

10.4 Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update**Author:** Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager**Authoriser:** Katrina Gray, Group Manager - Strategy, Community and Democracy**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 To provide the Policy/Planning Committee with an overview of Council's strategies and plans (including updates on those that are currently under review).

2. Strategic Framework

- 2.1 Council's Strategic Framework (Kowhai) was reviewed as part of the development of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. It sets out Council's vision, community outcomes, priorities, strategies, and plans.
- 2.2 The Government has announced its intention to review the Local Government Act 2002. Officers will keep up to date with the progress of this review as Council's Strategic Framework will need to be reviewed to ensure alignment. Regardless, Council's Strategic Framework will need to be reviewed prior to the development of the next long term plan.

3. Strategy/Plan Review

- 3.1 A list of Council's strategies and plans is attached (Attachment 1).
- 3.2 Notable updates for June 2025 include:
 - Waste Management Minimisation Plan (complete). The Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) was consulted on from 4 April to 5 May, alongside the Draft Annual Plan 2025/26, the Draft Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Buildings Policy, and the proposed fees and charges schedule 2025/26. A total of 14 submitters commented specifically on the draft WMMP. The Hearing of Submissions was held on 15 May 2025. Deliberations were held on 5 June 2025 and the Draft WMMP was recommended for adoption.
 - Economic Wellbeing Strategy (in progress). This Strategy has been drafted as "Rangitikei Tomorrow" and is being presented to Te Rōpū Ahi Kā for comment and the Policy/Planning Committee at this meeting for its consideration and endorsement. Subject to Policy/Planning Committee's approval it will be taken to Council for adoption.
 - Annual Plan 2025/26 (in progress). The Draft Annual Plan 2025/2026 has been consulted on (4 April to 5 May). A total of 23 submissions were received. The Hearing of Submissions took place on 15 May 2025 and Deliberations were held on 5 June 2025. The Annual Plan 2025/26 should go to Council for adoption at its meeting on 26 June 2025.
 - Proposed Plan Change 3 – Urban Growth (in progress). Technical assessments are largely complete. Officers workshopped these with Council on 22 May 2025. The growth areas are being workshopped further with Policy/Planning Committee at this meeting. A workshop with Council on the proposed amendments to provisions will be

ITEM 10.4

held in late June. Engagement with key stakeholders (e.g. NZTA Waka Kotahi) and mana whenua is planned for June/July 2025.

4. Options Considered

4.1 There are no options associated with this report.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no direct financial implications. Any strategies/plans are developed within budget.

6. Impact on Strategic Risks

6.1 There is no direct impact on Council's strategic risks associated with this report.

7. Strategic Alignment

7.1 Council's strategies and plans are key components of Council's Strategic Framework. A review of the strategies and plans layer of the Strategic Framework is planned as a key task once resourcing allows.

8. Mana Whenua Implications

8.1 There are no direct mana whenua implications associated with this report. Strategy/plan development occurs alongside Council's Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti and directly with iwi and hapū where relevant.

9. Climate Change Impacts and Consideration

9.1 There are no relevant climate change considerations.

10. Statutory Implications

10.1 There are no direct statutory implications.

11. Decision Making Process

11.1 There are no decisions required associated with this report.

Attachments:

1. **Strategy/Plan Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Strategy/Plan Development and Review Update' be received.

Strategy / Plan Register					
Strategies	Summary	Status	Legislation	Responsible Department	Comment / Update
<i>Strategic Framework</i>	Sets out the purpose, vision, community outcomes and strategic priorities	Adopted as part of the LTP 2024-34	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Work to update the Strategic Framework will commence following the local government election and when clarity is provided re Government direction "Back to Basics". Updated Strategic Framework will underpin the 2027 - 2037 LTP
Waste Strategy	Provides a medium to long term direction and vision of what we want to achieve in this activity over the next 30 years.	In development	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Phase 1 of this work is complete - a roadmap of how RDC will set direction based on industry best practice and potential central government goals.
Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond - Community Spatial Plan	Provides the blueprint for how we want the Rangitikei district to develop over the next 30 years.	Adopted September 2023	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Complete.
Parks, Open Spaces and Sporting Facilities Strategy	To provide a framework to underpin Council decision-making on investment in parks and reserves.	Complete	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Complete.
Climate Impact Strategy and Action Plan	Set's out Council's direction and actions in responding to climate impacts.	Adopted February 2024	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Complete.
Housing Strategy 2021 - 31	Provides a 10-year Council strategy to consider housing needs and potential solutions in eight sectors in the District.	Adopted as supporting information to the 2021-31 LTP	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Council have given direction that Officer focus should be limited to the business case for 22 Tui Street, Taihape. The need for this strategy should be reviewed alongside a review of the strategies/plans section of the strategic framework.
Economic Development Strategy 2021 - 31	Provides a 10 year Council strategy for economic development which outlines 10 priorities and 4 enablers.	Adopted as supporting information to the 2021-31 LTP	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Development in progress. Draft Economic Development Strategy has been provided to the Policy/Planning Committee for their feedback and endorsement at the June 2025 meeting. Subject to Policy/Planning Committee's approval it can go to Council at the end of June.
Enforcement (Regulatory) Strategy and Prosecution Policy	Sets out the principles and processes which Council uses to achieve regulatory compliance in a fair and consistent way.	Adopted 26 April 2018	Non-statutory	Regulatory	Review planned for 2025.
Heritage Strategy	Provides a long term vision to guide Council's management of heritage resources throughout the Rangitikei District	Adopted 31 March 2016	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Review unable to be commenced due to internal resourcing.
Property Strategy	Development of a strategy that identifies which properties Council should retain or dispose.	Complete	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Complete.
Plans					
Long Term Plan 2024-34	Set's out the activities Council plans to undertake and how it will be funded for 2024-34.	Adopted 27 June 2024	Local Government Act 2002	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Adopted 27 June 2024.
Annual Plan 2025/26	Set's out the activities Council plans to undertake and how it will be funded for 2025/26. Updated year from the LTP.	To be adopted June 2025	Local Government Act 2002	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Project underway. Consultation was undertaken from 4 April to 5 May 2025. A total of 23 submissions were received. The Hearing of submissions took place on 15 May 2025. Deliberations took place on 5 June 2025. Plan will be adopted by end of June 2025.
Roading Activity Management Plan	Comprehensive plan on how Council's roading assets should be maintained and renewed.	Complete	Non-statutory	Assets & Infrastructure	Reviewed and updated for the 2024 LTP.
3 Waters Activity Management Plan	Comprehensive plan on how Council's 3 Waters assets should be maintained and renewed.	Complete	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Reviewed and updated for the 2024 LTP.
Social Infrastructure Asset Management Plan	Comprehensive plan on how Council's Social Infrastructure assets should be maintained and renewed.	Complete	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Reviewed and updated for the 2024 LTP.
Destination Management Plan	Provides the plan for growing the visitor economy.	Adopted March 2022	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Complete.
Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2018 - 2024	Sets out how Council intends to promote efficient and effective waste management and minimisation within its district.	Adopted 28 June 2018	Required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	The Waste Assessment was adopted, and development of a new Waste Management Minimisation Plan agreed by Council at the 27 June 2024. The draft WMMP was consulted on simultaneously with the Annual Plan (4 April - 5 May). A total of 14 submitters commented on the draft WMMP. Deliberations took place on 5 June 2025, with the Draft WMMP being recommended for adoption.
Urban Tree Plan	Provides guidelines for tree management throughout the District.	Adopted in 2017	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	No review scheduled.
Turakina Town Centre Plan	Sets out a plan for the Turakina Town Centre.	February 2016	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan retains value as a stand alone document.
Mangaweka Town Centre Plan	Sets out a plan for the Mangaweka Town Centre.	February 2016	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan retains value as a stand alone document.
Marton Town Centre Plan	Sets out a framework for the future management of the Marton Town Centre.	December 2014	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan retains value as a stand alone document. Parts of the Town Centre Plan will be implemented through use of Better Off funding for town centre revitalisation.
Hunterville Town Centre Plan	Sets out a plan for the Hunterville Town Centre.	August 2014	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan retains value as a stand alone document.
Bulls Town Centre Plan	Sets out a framework for the future management of the Bulls Town Centre.	June 2014	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan retains value as a stand alone document. Parts of the Town Centre Plan will be implemented through use of Better Off funding for town centre revitalisation.
Taihape Town Centre Plan	Sets out a framework for the future management of the Taihape Town Centre.	January 2014	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Key aspects incorporated into the Community Spatial Plan. However, plan will be implemented through use of Better Off funding for town centre revitalisation.
Marton Streetscape Upgrade Plan	Sets out the upgrade for the Marton Town Centre.	Not yet commenced	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	In progress. A consultant has been procured for the works and public/stakeholder drop in sessions have been held.
Rangitikei District Plan	Sets out the objectives, policies and rules for land use in the District.	Operative - October 2013	Resource Management Act 1991	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Plan Change 3 Urban Growth - in progress. The acceleration of this phase has been funded through the Better Off fund. EPlan and National Planning Standards - ePlan (including national planning standards transition) operative 9 January 2025. Efficiency and effectiveness reports for the Residential, Rural Lifestyle and Commercial zones are complete.
Recreational Parks and Reserves Management Plan - Part One	Sets out the management objectives and policies for recreational reserves Council administers under the Reserves Act 1977.	Adopted 1 May 2014	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Subject to "continuous review" under the Reserves Act. Not scheduled for specific review.
Marton Park Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for Marton Park.	Adopted 3 November 2016	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Bulls Domain Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for the Bulls Domain.	Adopted 1 May 2014	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Work is underway on assessing the Bulls reserve/recreation land and the development of a Master Plan for the Bulls Domain will be included in this work. Mana whenua engagement has commenced and stakeholder engagement took place 3-5 June 2025.
Centennial Park Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for Centennial Park.	Adopted 1 May 2014	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Taihape Memorial Park Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for Memorial Park.	Adopted 25 March 2010	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Wilson Park Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for Wilson Park.	Adopted 30 July 2009	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.

ITEM 10.4 ATTACHMENT 1

Dudding Lake Management Plan (Part Two)	A management plan for Dudding Lake.	Adopted 26 November 2009	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Bulls Old Courthouse and Goal Management Plan (Part Two)	Historic reserve management plan for the Old Courthouse and Goal	Adopted 25 March 2010	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Historic Reserves Management Plan	Sets out the management objectives and policies for historic reserves Council administers under the Reserves Act 1977.	Adopted 25 March 2010	Reserves Act 1977	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Not scheduled for review.
Taihape Domain Master Plan	An integrated masterplan for the development, use and upgrade of Taihape Domain.	Endorsed 25 July 2023	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Completed in 2023.
Welcoming Communities Plan	A community-owned plan to be more open and accepting and build our cultural diversity and inclusion.	Complete	Non-statutory	Strategy, Community & Democracy	Welcoming Communities program is no longer being Government funded or delivered by Immigration New Zealand beyond June 2024 due to the new government priorities. The final phase has been implemented of the Welcoming Community website and can be accessed via the RDC main website. The ongoing principles continue to be delivered from our Community Hubs, with staff keeping up to date and will continue to add website information for newly arrived individuals and families to our district.
Bulls Parks Plan	A master plan for the parks in Bulls.	In progress	Non-statutory	Assets, Infrastructure & Projects	Consultant procured and background work commenced. Mana whenua engagement has begun and stakeholder engagement took place 3-5 June 2025.

10.5 Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update**Author:** Janna Harris, Corporate Planner**Authoriser:** Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager**1. Reason for Report**

- 1.1 To provide the Policy/Planning Committee with an update on Council's policy and bylaw work programme.

2. Bylaw Work Programme

- 2.1 The bylaw register attached provides an update on the status of all bylaws (Attachment 1).
- 2.2 The Committee completed the review of the Water Related Services Bylaw 2020 at the April Policy/Planning Committee Meeting. The Committee directed Officers to draft amendments to the bylaw to bring back to the Committee for consideration. Officers are in the process of drafting these amendments.
- 2.3 The Mokai Bridge Bungy Jumping Bylaw was due to be reviewed by 30 April 2023. June 2024 the Committee decided that a new bylaw would not be developed to replace the Mokai Bridge Bungy Jumping Bylaw. As this bylaw was not reviewed within the required timeframe, the bylaw was automatically revoked on 30 April 2025. The bylaw has now been removed from Council's website.

3. Policy Work Programme

- 3.1 The policy register attached provides an update on the status of all policies (Attachment 2).
- 3.2 The Policy/Planning Committee reviewed, consulted on and deliberated on the Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy and TAB Venue Policy. At its meeting in April, the Committee recommended to Council that these policies be adopted. Council adopted the policies at its meeting on 30 April 2025. These policies can now be found on Council's [website](#).
- 3.3 The Dangerous, Affected and Insanitary Building Policy was reviewed by the Committee earlier this year. This policy was consulted on alongside the Annual Plan 2025/26 as part of "Where's the Annual Plan 2025/26 & Co @ Rangitikei". Council adopted this policy at the Council meeting on 5 June 2025.
- 3.4 Officers are in the process of reviewing the following policies, these policies will be brought to the Committee for its consideration in the future:
 - Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings Policy,
 - Social Media Policy,
 - Procurement Policy,
 - Delegations to Positions Policy, and
 - Media Policy.

4. Financial Implications

- 4.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report. The policy and bylaw work programme are undertaken within existing budgets.

5. Impact on Strategic Risks

- 5.1 There are no strategic risks associated with this report.

6. Strategic Alignment

- 6.1 The development and review of all policies and bylaws are undertaken with the intention of improving the wellbeing of the district including providing safe and pleasant spaces for the community.

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 impacts associated with this report.

9. Statutory Implications

- 9.1 As the Mokai Bridge Bungy Jumping Bylaw was not reviewed within the statutory timeframes as outlined in section 159 of the Local Government Act 2002, this bylaw was automatically revoked 2 years after it was due to be reviewed under section 160A of the Local Government Act 2002.

10. Decision Making Process

- 10.1 There are no decision-making processes associated with this report, this report is for information purposes only.

Attachments:

1. **Bylaw Register** [↓](#)
2. **Policy Register** [↓](#)

Recommendation

That the report 'Policy and Bylaw Work Programme Update' be received.

Bylaw Register					
Document	Requirement/Enabling Legislation	Last reviewed	Review due	Responsible	Comment / Update
Mokai Bridge Bungy Jumping Bylaw	Local Government Act 2002	30/04/2013	30/04/2023	Democracy & Planning	Revoked, will be removed from register
Control of Dogs Bylaw	Dog Control Act 1996 Local Government Act 2002	26/05/2016	17/03/2026	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Review to begin late 2025.
Traffic and Parking Bylaw	Land Transport Act 1998	15/03/2023	15/03/2028	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Liquor Control Bylaw	Local Government Act 2002	30/11/2018	13/09/2028	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Animal Control Bylaw	Local Government Act 2002	31/01/2019	12/07/2028	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Stock Droving and Grazing Bylaw	Land Transport Act 1998 Local Government Act 2002	26/09/2019	22/08/2029	Assets & Infrastructure Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Water Related Services Bylaw	Local Government Act 2002	30/04/2020	30/04/2025	Assets and Infrastructure, Democracy and Planning	Review complete, Officers working to draft changes to the bylaw
Food Business Grading Bylaw	Food Act 2014 Local Government Act 2002	28/10/2021	28/10/2026	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Review to begin mid 2026.
Signs and Public Places Bylaw	Local Government Act 2002	29/08/2024	29/08/2029	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.

Policy Register						
Document	Requirement/Enabling Legislation	Last reviewed	Review due	Priority	Responsible	Comment / Update
TAB Venues Policy	Racing Industry Act 2020	30/04/2025	30/04/2028	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Gambling Venue (Class 4) Policy	Gambling Act 2003	30/04/2025	30/04/2028	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Operating Unmanned Aerial Systems (Drones) on Council Owned and Administrated Land Policy	Civil Aviation Authority Part 101	27/07/2024	No requirement	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Disposal of Surplus Lands and Buildings		26/02/2015	N/A	High	Assets & Infrastructure	Review has commenced.
Social Media Policy		1/08/2021	No requirement	Medium	Democracy & Planning	Review underway.
Treasury Management Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S102, 104, 105	30/09/2023	No requirement	Medium	Corporate Services	Review date set September 2026.
Statement on Development of Māori Capacity to Contribute to Decision Making	Local Government Act 2002 S81, Sch10 clause 8	27/06/2024	No requirement	Medium	Democracy & Planning	Not due for Review.
Significance and Engagment Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S76AA	16/05/2024	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Development Contributions Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S102, 106	16/05/2024	16/05/2027	Low	Assets & Infrastructure Corporate Services	Not due for review.
Revenue and Finance Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S102, 103	16/05/2024	No requirement	Low	Corporate Services	Not due for review.
Community Housing Policy		29/08/2024	29/08/2027	Medium	Community Services	Not due for review.
Procurement Policy		29/08/2024	No requirement	Medium	Corporate Services	Review has commenced.
Smokfree and Vapefree Policy		29/08/2024	No requirement	Medium	Democracy & Planning Community Services	Not due for review.
LGOIMA Requests Policy		1/05/2023	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	Review to commence in near future
Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy	Building Act 2004 S131	25/06/2020	25/06/2025	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Adopted 5 June 2025.
Delegations to Positions Policy		24/05/2023	24/11/2025	Low	Democracy & Planning	Review has commenced.
Local Governance Statement	Local Government Act 2002	31/03/2023	31/03/2026	Low	Democracy & Planning	Not due for review.
Dog Control and Ownership Responsibility Policy	Dog Control Act 1996 S10	26/05/2016	17/03/2026	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Review to begin late 2025, alongside the Control of Dogs Bylaw.
Rates Postponement Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S102	25/06/2020	25/06/2026	Low	Corporate Services	Not due for review.
Local Easter Sunday Trading Policy	Shop Trading Hours Act 1990 P2 S5a	16/12/2021	16/12/2026	Low	Regulatory	Not due for review.
Rates Remission Policy	Local Government Act 2002 S102, 109	9/06/2022	9/06/2028	Low	Corporate Services	Not due for review.
Rates Remission Policy for Māori Freehold Land	Local Government Act 2002 S102, 108	9/06/2022	9/06/2028	Low	Corporate Services	Not due for review.
Standing Orders	Local Government Act 2002 Sch7 27	23/11/2023	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	Review to follow 2025 triennial election.
Code of Conduct	Local Government Act Sch7 15	23/11/2022	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	Review to follow 2025 triennial election.
MOU: Tūtohunga		17/12/2019	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	No review planned.
External Grant Applications		11/05/2017	No requirement	Low	Community Services	No review planned.
Rural Water Supply Policy		1/12/2017	No requirement	Low	Assets & Infrastructure	No review planned.
Reducing or Waiving Fees for Use of Council Facilities		1/10/2015	No requirement	Low	Community Services Democracy & Planning	No review planned.
Reducing or Waiving Fees for internal consenting costs		1/10/2015	No requirement	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	No review planned.
Partnership Between the Local Authority and the Private Sector		14/11/2014	No requirement	Low	Community Services	No review planned.
Appointment of Directors	Local Government Act 2002 s57	21/07/2008	No requirement	Low	Democracy & Planning	No review planned.
Road Naming Policy		N/A	N/A	Low	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Development timeframe dependent on staff capacity
Media Policy		20/09/2022	N/A	Medium	Regulatory Democracy & Planning	Review underway.

11 Discussion Items

11.1 Proposed Changes to National Direction under the Resource Management Act 1991

Author: Tiffany Gower, Strategy Manager

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

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To provide the Policy/Planning Committee with an overview of proposed changes to national direction under the Resource Management Act 1991. Detailed information about the proposed changes is available online - [Consultation on updating RMA national direction | Ministry for the Environment](#)
- 1.2 A short presentation will be provided at the meeting.
- 1.3 The Committee will be asked for members that wish to be on a working group responsible for developing Council's position on the proposed changes to national direction.

Recommendation 1

That the report 'Proposed Changes to National Direction under the Resource Management Act 1991' be received.

Recommendation 2

That the following elected members are part of a working group responsible for developing Council's position on the proposed changes to national direction under the Resource Management Act 1991: [add here].

12 Meeting Closed.