

ORDER PAPER

RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 11 August 2026

Time: 6.30pm

Venue: Rātana ICT Hub
4 Taihauauru Street
Rātana Pa

Chair: Mr Charlie Mete

Deputy Chair: Mr Jason Hihira

Membership: Ms Ruthie Lawrence
Ms Grace Taiaroa
Cr Piki Te Ora Hirao

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Notice is hereby given that a Rātana Community Board Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Rātana ICT Hub, 4 Taihauauru Street, Rātana Pa on Tuesday, 11 August 2026 at 6.30pm.

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AGENDA

1 Whakamoemiti

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: Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from **Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 9 June 2026** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Rātana Community Board Meeting - 9 June 2026**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 9 June 2026 [**as amended/without amendment**] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

MINUTES



RANGITIKEI
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Making this place home.

UNCONFIRMED: RĀTANA COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Tuesday, 9 June 2026
Time: 7.00pm
Venue: Rātana ICT Hub
4 Taihauauru Street
Rātana Pa

Present Mr Charlie Mete
Ms Grace Taiaroa
Mr Jason Hihira
Ms Ruthie Lawrence

In attendance Cr Paul Sharland
HWTM Andy Watson
Ms Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer

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1 Whakamoemiti

Ms Taiaroa spoke the whakamoemiti and the meeting opened at 7pm.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/026

That the apology from Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/027

That the minutes of Rātana Community Board Meeting held on 14 April 2026 **[as amended]** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

The follow up actions were discussed.

Item 2 - the graffiti on the bus shelter has now been painted out so can be removed from the follow-up actions list.

Item 3 - Ms Bovey presented some drafts of new signage for the urupa for the Board to look at. Some edits were suggested by the Board and will be taken back to staff to reflect the changes. The new drafts will be emailed to Board members for comment.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/028

That the report Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings be received.

Mr J Hihira/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

7 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - June 2026

The Chair provided copies of the following written report:

Tēnā koutou katoa,

I would like to begin by acknowledging the positive work that has been completed around our community over the past month.

Firstly, I am pleased to report that the graffiti on the bus stop has been removed, and the bus stop has since been repainted by Council. The fresh paintwork has significantly improved its appearance, and it is encouraging to see our public spaces being maintained to a good standard. I would like to thank Council staff for responding promptly and helping to keep our community looking presentable.

Secondly, Council has recently laid gravel on the road leading up to the cemetery. This work has improved access to an important area of our community and will be appreciated by those visiting the urupā, particularly during periods of wet weather. We acknowledge and thank Council for undertaking this work.

I would also like to acknowledge the positive atmosphere around the Rātana sports grounds. The Rātana Rugby Club season is well underway, and it has been great to see regular sporting activity taking place on our fields. The grounds have been busy with rugby and other community sports, bringing people together and creating a vibrant and active environment for our whānau, tamariki, and wider community. Sport continues to play an important role in strengthening community connections, promoting wellbeing, and providing positive opportunities for our young people.

Finally, I would like to raise the issue of the Government's proposed changes relating to local government and the potential amalgamation of councils. While details are still being considered, it is important that the Rātana Community Board remains informed and engaged in discussions around how any future changes may affect our community.

Some of the concerns we may wish to consider include:

- Maintaining local representation and ensuring the voice of Rātana is not diminished.
- Protecting community decision-making and local priorities.
- Ensuring continued investment in infrastructure and services within our community.
- Understanding what any governance changes could mean for future funding opportunities and relationships with Council.

As more information becomes available, I believe it will be important for the Board to actively participate in consultation processes and advocate strongly for the interests of the Rātana community.

I would also like to thank all Board members, community groups, volunteers, and residents who continue to contribute their time and energy towards the wellbeing and development of our community. Your commitment is greatly appreciated and helps make Rātana a strong and connected place for everyone.

Ngā mihi,

Charlie Mete

Chairman, Rātana Community Board

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/029

That the Chair's Report – June 2026 be received.

Mr C Mete/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

8 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - June 2026

HWTM Watson was happy to take the report as read but highlighted a few items:

- Central District Water
- Rates Capping
- Local Government Reform – the Head Start programme

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/030

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

Mr C Mete/Ms G Taiaroa. Carried

9.2 Rangitikei at the table: June Engagement on Simplifying Local Government

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/031

That the report Rangitikei at the table: June Engagement on Simplifying Local Government be received.

Mr J Hihira/Mr C Mete. Carried

9.3 Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti

Ms Taiaroa gave an update on items discussed at the TRAK meeting earlier in the day:

- The National Environmental Stands for Papakainga Housing
- The newly appointed Strategic Advisor Mana Whenua had attended the meeting and would be commencing his role with Rangitikei District Council in a couple of weeks time.
- As the Northern Marae tour had been so successful a Southern Marae tour has been organised and the date has been set for the 17th of September.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/032

That the Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

9.4 Cemetery Update - June 2026

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/033

That the report Cemetery Update – June 2026 be received.

Mr J Hihira/Ms R Lawrence. Carried

9.5 Funding Schemes Update - June 2026

The report was taken as read. The Board was keen to be informed when the funds opened and closed to be able to promote the funds to the community.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/034

That the Funding Schemes Update – June 2026 be received.

Mr J Hihira/Mr C Mete. Carried

9.6 Rātana Wastewater Discharge to Land - Update

The report was taken as read but it was noted that there did seem to be progress on this project.

Resolved minute number 26/RCB/035

That the Rātana Wastewater Discharge to Land - Update be received.

Mr C Mete/Mr J Hihira. Carried

ITEM 6.1 ATTACHMENT 1

The meeting closed at 8.04pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ratana Community Board held on 11 August 2026.

.....
Chairperson

Unconfirmed

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Ratana Community Board Meetings

Author: Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 On the list attached are items raised at previous Ratana Community Board 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 Ratana Community Board Meetings be received.

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
1	10-Jun-25	Traffic island signage obstructing the view	Andy	NZTA are undertaking the moving of the sign.	In progress
2	10-Jun-25	Ratana Road signage needs updating	Kezia	No update at this stage	In progress
3	8-Oct-24	Corrosion of the road at the intersection entering Ratana	Mel Bovey/Darryn Black	Ms Bovey undertook at the last meeting to look into this. This has been notified to NZTA	In progress
4	12-Dec-23	Speed bump on the road coming into Ratana has not been replaced- what has happened?	Roading team	RFS 2403615- The roading team is trying to find something that will stick without being worn away fast.	In progress
5	5-Oct-21	With regards to the Ratana Cemetery Extension: Staff to consider providing better facilities for volunteers who dig new plots. Update 08 Feb 22: The Board clarified that the request was for water access, for both contractors and visitors. The Board advised that they would like a water source that is aesthetically pleasing (i.e., not just a tap in a post). Update 09 Aug 22: The Board asked that this be reconsidered, as the owner of the adjacent farm has given verbal approval for the existing water line on his property to be used (the water does not need to be drinkable). Ms Bovey undertook to follow-up on this request.	Mel Bovey / Arno Benadie	This request is being investigated by the Parks Team who will look at potential options in conjunction with a similar request from Taihape residents for their cemetery. This is being done across the District as part of the Long Term Plan.	In progress

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - August 2026

Author: Charlie Mete, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Chair's Report – August 2026 be received.

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Mayor's Report - July 2026

Author: Andy Watson, His Worship the Mayor

Kia ora koutou,

Following the adoption of our Annual Plan at the Council meeting on 25 June we are now into our new Council financial year as at 1 July.

Planning for this year will be subject to many changes forced on us by Government and world inflationary pressure. We all know the hardships of diesel/petrol/chemical cost increases. The cost increases on Council will be challenging. Roading asphalt for example has increased by up to 45%. So this year it will be a struggle to reduce costs in this environment with rates pegging in mind.

Good business practice is to look at the environment we operate in. There are some positives – we have a rural based local economy and the prices for beef/lamb/mutton are exceptional. Who would have thought that cull ewes could be worth in excess of \$200 a head. The sheep and beef breeders on our hill country blocks are able to pay back debt and reinvest. Wool over the last few years has bounced back into profitability. Our fattening farmers also have seen increased returns if they have a bank relationship that enables them to fund capital purchases for store stock. Dairy continues to be well placed. On the downside, forestry is a challenge especially following huge areas that are harvested with little to no profit after recent wind damage and cropping has shown flat returns in an environment of increased diesel and fertiliser costs. A number of companies are under pressure and it is sad to see the impending closure of Malteurop after 46 years of business. Malteurop takes barley grown locally and barley sourced from Timaru, refined in Marton to produce malt for the beer brewing industry. Increased cartage costs have been significant along with the New Zealand wide reduction in beer consumption. Locally 14 people will lose their jobs, these are great people/families that we need to support to find new employment. Other companies and contractors are also under similar pressures at the moment. Affordability for residents is a real challenge, food prices, fuel, council rates, insurance costs and interest rates are taking a huge toll.

The Government has seen the amalgamation of councils and amalgamation of Government ministries as one of its solutions to offset these rising costs and pressures. This may well be the case in the long term but the challenges will be in the short term establishment and loss of local voice. So where is the Rangitikei at regarding amalgamation?

On 2-3 July we had what is known as a Zone meeting in Napier. This is a gathering of councils spread from Wairoa/Gisborne to Tararua and New Plymouth to Horowhenua and all councils in between. The focus on the Zone meeting was based around these reform changes, ie. amalgamation of councils. In this report I have asked our attending Councillors Dave Wilson Deputy Mayor, Fi Dalgety, Diana Baird and Graeme O'Fee to report back giving their impressions from across the wider region. I also invite them at this meeting to express their views.

Council will decide at this meeting whether we will be part of a "Head Start" application process to Government reforms. I think it is unlikely, time simply has not allowed a considered position and

most other councils are in a similar position. However, that is yet to be decided and the background and detail is included in this Order Paper.

On 21 July I attended the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Leadership Group meeting in Palmerston North. This followed another set of changes to Local Government in the Resource Management Act (RMA) process. I include Minister Bishop's letter as an attachment concerning changes to the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe provisions in the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill, i.e. the RMA. Mana Whakahono ā Rohe is a legislative agreement under the present RMA that describes how Iwi and councils will work together in resource management. Recently Rangitīkei has had interest from several Iwi to formalise new Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements. These recent approaches have been generated for two reasons –

1. Any amalgamation would result in a transfer of these agreements, if formed, to the new entity. We have a good Iwi track record/relationship and the concern here is that the new council may reconsider relationships in a different way.
2. Iwi across Aotearoa New Zealand have seen the Government direction as being against Tiriti principles and want to formalise agreements now while legally binding in the future, i.e. they don't trust the current Government.

So Minister Bishop is legislating to remove the existing rights/provisions in the legislation to effectively limit Iwi say on any RMA process. It is important to continue with our existing relationships both within Te Rōpū Ahi Kā and with individual iwi. We can continue to develop these Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreements while realising that they may hold no legislative position. It is also good business sense since the iwi asset base across New Zealand is in the vicinity of \$12.5b with commercial land valuations in excess of probably \$120b. They will be the significant investment force in the future.

I also append to this report Councillor Jeff Wong's Passenger Transport Committee reports and I invite him to provide any further feedback and take any questions.

Now for some community great news!

1. On 30 June we had yet another Citizenship Ceremony signing in 19 new citizens to New Zealand and our district. These are special and really emotive ceremonies and to see people crying to be welcomed into our country as a safe space/refuge is very moving.
2. At the time of writing this on Friday 24 July I have just attended a morning tea shout for a young woman, Jayden, celebrating her first years work at UPVC a window company in Bulls. This employment through the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs is such a success. The morning tea was recognising a small but growing company who took the time and patience to train a young person. To the team at UPVC I thank you.
3. Equally I congratulate Taihape who held an auction on 27 June at the Utiku Rugby Clubrooms to raise funds that will be split between the Memorial Park Bridges/Walkway and the Taihape Grandstand Restoration. Thanks to the many people who provided auction items, prizes or who bid excessively on the night - I understand that around \$28,000 was raise within a couple of hours.

Chief Executive Performance Committee

We have a small formal committee responsible for the Chief Executive's performance review. Cr John Hainsworth is retiring from that Committee to be replaced by Cr Diana Baird as an appointment made under Section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002.

Administration Matters

The districts of Palmerston North, Manawatū, Rangitīkei and Ruapehu have relationships with the Defence Forces on or near their boundaries. Included in this report is the draft Statement of Intent renewing that formal process. It is incredibly important that we have these relationships and they are imbedded formally in process.

LGNZ 2026 AGM Remits

There are nine remits Council needs to put a position forward on.

Remit 1 – Priorities for Dog Control Act Reform

That LGNZ advocates to government for the reform of the Dog Control Act 1996 to provide councils with more effective powers and tools to undertake their dog control responsibilities including –

- Greater scope for earlier intervention
- Stronger consequences for non-compliance
- Better ability for councils to set minimum requirements for dog owners – including for desexing and containment

Remit 2 – Improved Regulation of Vape Retailers

That LGNZ advocate to central government for legislative change to provide territorial authorities with greater regulatory and enforcement powers over vape retailers, including the ability to control the location, density, operation, advertising, product visibility and compliance standards of vape stores within their districts.

Remit 3 – Financial Support for Government Reform Implementation Costs

That LGNZ advocate to central government to provide specific targeted financial support to councils to implement the operational and governance changes that are proposed through the legislative reform programme, for example Simplifying Local Government and RMA reforms.

Remit 4 – Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government Reform

That LGNZ advocate to the Government, on behalf of its members, for compliance relief from the upcoming representation review requirements in light of the significant reforms proposed through the Simplifying Local Government programme and the recent Head Start pathway, which may render any review undertaken before the 2028 elections redundant.

Remit 5 – Devolution of Place-Naming Authority to Territorial Authorities

That LGNZ advocate for legislative changes to devolve authority for officiating geographic place names from the Minister for Land Information to local authorities.

Remit 6 – Enhanced role for Government in supporting subnational diplomacy

That LGNZ advocate to government and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade to formalise and increase its role in supporting subnational diplomacy including developing clear policy and capability to support and grow local government's contribution.

Remit 7 – Bulk Funding of Transport Activities

That LGNZ calls on government, opposition parties and NZTA to support a move to bulk funding for basic and repeatable transport activities, thereby acknowledging the efficiency and financial gains and reduction in funding risk, this change would provide to local government, and supports a trial of this proposed bulk-funding approach for the 2027-2030 funding round amongst a group of councils which have demonstrated strong performance in delivering public transport services and/or maintaining transport infrastructure.

Remit 8 – Improving LTP Audit Requirements

That LGNZ advocate to government for improvements to the efficiency, proportionality and cost-effectiveness of audit requirements for Long Term Plans and Consultation Documents, including –

1. Greater proportionality in audit requirements, ensuring that audit effort is aligned with council size, complexity, risk and materiality; and
2. Reducing duplication across audit stages, particularly where similar information and assumptions are subject to repeated review; and
3. Improving standardisation, transparency and cost control in audit delivery, to reduce rework and improve consistency across the sector, and to constrain excessive or escalating audit fees through greater transparency of audit pricing and benchmarking of costs across the sector.

Remit 9 – A Fairer Approach to Uneconomic Transport Infrastructure Funding

That LGNZ advocate for a fairer approach towards uneconomic transport infrastructure, where either NZTA commits to co-funding this infrastructure if councils remain legally obligated to own and maintain it, and/or the Government provides clearer guidance and support for councils downgrading or ceasing service to low traffic volume areas.

Passenger Transport Committee Meeting – report from Cr Jeff Wong

- The Horizons Regional Council Passenger Transport Committee Meeting was held on 16th June (agenda appended to this report).
- Whanganui launch revised 'high frequency' bus routes with 110% increase over same period last year.
- Fees free month and high fuel costs contribute to the increase but continued increase after fees resumed.
- Off peak times use of smaller buses to improve optics of not running large buses with few passengers often suggested but costs of running significantly larger fleets not economic.
- National Ticketing Solution scheduled for Manawatu Whanganui in third quarter of 2027.
- Horowhenua proposed bus service postpone to Y4 LTP along with increases in Rangitikei PT services.

Mayor's Engagements**June 2026**

12	Attended Meeting with Hospice Palmerston North Attended Presentation of Community Volunteer Award to Gary Johnson in Taihape
14	Attended Local Government Reform Public Meeting at Scotts Ferry
15	Attended online meeting re upcoming Zone 3 hui in Napier Attended Headstart Pathway Discussion with Whanganui District Council Mayor & CE Attended LGNZ Online Briefing on Amalgamation Attended Youth Council Meeting
16	Attended Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs Fortnightly Online Hui Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended monthly meeting with Comms Staff Attended monthly meeting with Economic Development Staff Attended Marton Community Meeting on Local Government Reform
17	Attended Mokai Patea Iwi Chairs Hui for outline of Local Government Reform Attended meeting at Ratana with developers Attended Bulls Community Meeting on Local Government Reform Attended Bulls Community Committee Meeting
18	Attended online Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Governance Group meeting Attended BA5 at Property Brokers Rangitikei Attended Koitiata Public Meeting on Local Government Reform
19	Attended Bulls & District Community Trust AGM Attended LGNZ Infrastructure Reference Group online Meeting Attended Civil Contractors NZ Manawatu-Whanganui Branch Meeting
20	Attended field sale at Ratana Attended Mangaweka Volunteer 22Fire Brigade Honours Night
22	Attended Powhiri for Pa Rima Tamaiparea-Puki – Mana Whenua Strategic Advisor Attended Premier Screening of We Were Just Children at Nga Tawa School Attended Marton Water Strategy meeting with staff
23	Attended tri-weekly catchup with CDW Board Chair Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting with MSD Regional Commissioner Attended online LGNZ briefing from Minister of Local Government Attended Defence Hub – Mayor's Event Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
24	Attended Memorial Park User Group Meeting

25	Attended Council Meeting Attended Finance/Performance Worskhop Attended Council Workshop
26	Attended LGNZ Briefing National Council (morning session) Attended CDW Joint Shareholders' Committee Meeting Attended Mayors Meeting with CDW Board Chair Attended meeting with Maycroft Construction Attended LGNZ Briefing National Council (afternoon session)
27	Attended Brass Band concert at St Stephens Church Attended Taihape Rugby Club auction
29	Attended Zone 3 co-chair online meeting Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended site visit to meet Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Placement in Bulls Attended online Head Start meeting with Ruapehu District Council Mayor & CE Attended weekly Head Start meeting with staff Attended Arohanui Hospice meeting in Palmerston North Attended KiwiRail Freight Connect event in Palmerston North
30	Attended online Head Start meeting with Tararua District Council Mayor & CE Attended Citizenship Ceremony Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor

July 2026

1	Attended Council Workshop
2	Attended LGNZ Online Briefing : Partnering with Iwi through Head Start Attended Zone 3 LGNZ Sector Meeting in Napier
3	Attended Zone 3 LGNZ Sector Meeting in Napier
5	Attended Community Planting Day at B&C Dams
6	Attended CE Performance review meeting with Committee Chair and Consultant Attended weekly Head Start meeting with staff Attended CE Performance Review meeting with Chief Executive Attended Youth Council workshop
7	Attended meetings with ratepayers Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
8	Attended Mayoral Forum Workshop Attended hui with Ngai Te Ohuaka/Ngati Whitikaupeka/Ngati Tamakopiri to initiate the Mana Whakahono a Rohe process Attended Taihape Grandstand Restoration Group meeting

ITEM 9.1

9	Attended LGNZ online briefing : Lessons from UK local government amalgamations Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended monthly Economic Development Meeting with staff Attended Mokai Patea Services/Taihapa Health Matariki Kaumatua Hakinakina Attended Matariki Staff Awards Evening
13	Attended weekly Head Start Meeting with staff Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended Te Roopu Ahi Kaa meeting to discuss Head Start
14	Attended tri-weekly meeting with CDW Board Chair Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
15	Attended monthly Governors Q&A session with Executive Leadership Team Attended monthly Comms Meeting with staff Attended Chief Executive Performance Committee Meeting
16	Attended Meeting with Mayors Ford & Gilmore Attended BA5 Meeting – Te Kai Whaka Ora Marton Youth Trust
17	Attended monthly meeting with Police and staff
18	Attended Bulls Volunteer Fire Brigade Honours Night
20	Attended meeting with Acting Chief Executive Attended meeting with Department of Corrections Community Liaison advisor Attended meeting with ratepayers
21	Attended meeting with District Monitor staff Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
22	Attended Regional Chiefs Head Start online hui with MCERT Attended Manawatu-Whanganui Regional Leadership Group Meeting
23	Attended weekly Head Start Meeting with staff Attended meeting with Chief Executive Attended meeting at Proliant Health & Biologicals in Feilding Attended Council Workshop Attended Manawatu Rangitikei Federated Farmers function and debate
23	Attended UPVC Windows Bulls to celebrate MTFJ placement's 12 month anniversary Attended Mana Whakahone a Rohe meeting with Ngati Rangi
27	Attended meeting with Chief Executive
28	Attended Regional Transport Matters Regional Chiefs fortnightly online meeting Attended weekly meeting with Deputy Mayor
29	Attended Four Regions Trust AGM Attended BA5 NZ Squash Open Launch at Regent on Broadway

30	To attend meeting with Chief Executive To attend weekly Head Start Meeting with staff To attend Council Meeting and Council Workshop
31	To attend LGNZ online AGM To attend Whangaehu Community Hall Fundraiser Evening

Attachments:

1. **Draft Statement of Intent between the NZ Defence Force, PNCC, MDC, Rangitikei DC and Ruapehu DC** [↓](#)
2. **Letter from Minister Bishop - proposed changes to Mana Whakahono a Rohe provisions - July 2026** [↓](#)
3. **Elected Members Attendance Register** [↓](#)
9. **Elected Members Attendance Register**

Recommendation

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



STATEMENT OF INTENT

Between
NEW ZEALAND DEFENCE FORCE
and
PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL
and
MANAWATU DISTRICT COUNCIL
and
RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL
and
RUAPEHU DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. Purpose

The New Zealand Defence Force (Defence), Palmerston North City Council (PNCC), Manawatu District Council (MDC), Rangitikei District Council and Ruapehu District Council recognise they have many interests in common given the location of Linton Military Camp, NZ Defence College, Ohakea Air Force Base and Waiouru Military Camp within Central New Zealand, and that there will be mutual benefits from collaboration and co-operation.

This Statement of Intent records the intention of the parties to work together to:

- Maximise the business opportunities within Central New Zealand associated with Defence activities and investment.
- Ensure defence personnel and their families become an integrated part of their local communities.
- Recognise the contribution of Defence to the regional economy

- Facilitate opportunities that enable Defence to contribute to their local communities.
- Acknowledge the place of Defence within the Central New Zealand and the contribution it makes to community life.
- Acknowledge the role of PNCC, MDC, RDC and RDC as co-advocates for Defence issues pertaining to central and local government infrastructure policy, planning, growth and development.

2. Objectives

The parties intend to work collaboratively in the following areas of mutual strategic interest:

2.1 Strategic planning and policy

Engagement on planning matters that affect the operations of Defence and on government policy where there is a local impact.

2.2 Infrastructure provision and development

Identify opportunities where Defence could be involved in development of infrastructure projects in Central New Zealand.

Identify and address infrastructure issues to facilitate development of Defence in the Manawatu.

Improve the physical connectivity of Defence bases with their local communities.

2.3 Economic development

Develop a shared strategy for growth of Defence operations and jobs.

Identify ways that businesses can recognise the contribution of Defence to the local economy.

Identify opportunities for businesses to locate to the Central New Zealand to leverage the strategic strength of Defence.

Develop the Central New Zealand as a hub of capability development for Defence and Defence-related activities.

2.4 Community facilities and development

Provide opportunities for the public to engage with Defence and showcase their activities to lift the profile of Defence in the community.

Provide a welcoming environment for Defence personnel and their families to Central New Zealand.

Identify and address any barriers to Defence personnel being integrated into the local community such as access to services and affordable housing.

2.5 Events

Hold events that recognise the special place that Defence has in the Central New Zealand and the contribution it makes to the region.

2.6 Communication

Proactive communication and sharing of information by all parties regarding strategic policy and planning and infrastructure provision and development that directly or indirectly supports Defence activities.

2.7 Annual Plan

The parties will prepare a joint Annual Plan to guide the deliverables outlined in the Statement of Intent.

3. Co-ordination and Liaison

The parties will hold three meetings per annum to deliver on this Statement of Intent and review progress.

Each party will appoint a relationship champion from within their staff to actively manage and promote the relationship and achievement of collaborative outcomes.

Each party recognises and respects the local relationships between PNCC, MDC, Rangitikei District Council and Ruapehu District Council, Linton Army, NZ Defence College, Ohakea Air Force and Waiouru Military Camp.

4. Commitment

Nothing in this Statement of Intent diminishes the full authority of any party, or constrains or obligates any party, financially or otherwise.

The parties do not intend this statement of intent to create legal obligations.

5. Term

The term of this Statement of Intent is ten years from the date of signing with a further right of renewal of ten years and ongoing thereafter, upon mutual agreement.

This Statement of Intent is subject to revision or renewal by mutual agreement of the parties.

Any party may terminate this Statement of Intent at any time by giving written notice to the other parties.

Dated this day of July 2026

Signed for and on behalf of New Zealand Defence Force

Signed for and on behalf of Palmerston North City Council

Signed for and on behalf of Manawatu District Council

Signed for and on behalf of Rangitikei District Council

Signed for and on behalf of Ruapehu District Council

Hon Chris Bishop

Attorney-General
Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister of Transport
Associate Minister of Finance



21 July 2026

CB-COR3111

Tēnā koe

Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill: proposed changes to Mana Whakahono ā Rohe provisions

I am writing to regarding changes the Government intends to make to the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill currently before Parliament. Local authorities will continue to lead the delivery of the resource management system under the new legislation, and I wanted to let you know about this intended change that will impact you directly.

The Government intends to amend the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill to remove the provisions that would have saved existing and initiated Mana Whakahono ā Rohe in the new planning system.

The Bills as introduced provided that existing Mana Whakahono ā Rohe, and ones initiated before the Bills are enacted, would transfer into the new system, subject to modifications to reflect the scope of the new legislation. The Government has reconsidered that approach.

The Government now intends to progress amendments so that existing and initiated Mana Whakahono ā Rohe will not transfer into the new planning system. Instead, the Bills will provide for a new instrument scoped to the new system that will be known as 'iwi participation agreements'.

Iwi participation agreements will enable iwi authorities and local authorities to record how iwi authorities will participate in the iwi participation processes provided for in the Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill where those processes are the responsibility of local authorities. They may also record processes for engagement where required to give effect to relevant Treaty settlement redress.

This proposed approach will ensure that participation arrangements in the new system are aligned with the scope and design of the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill. Local authorities will have the discretion to enter into these agreements if requested to by an iwi authority – in contrast to Mana Whakahono ā Rohe that must be entered into if iwi authorities initiate them.

I acknowledge that some iwi authorities, hapū, and local authorities have invested significant time and resource in negotiating or implementing Mana Whakahono ā Rohe. I also acknowledge that this proposed change may be disappointing for parties who expected existing or initiated arrangements to transition into the new system. The Government's intention for the change is to provide a clearer and more consistent framework for iwi participation under the new legislation.

My officials at the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport are available to discuss with you how the new participation agreements are likely to work. For further information, please contact Clare Maihi (clare.maihi@mcert.govt.nz)

Ngā mihi nui

Hon Chris Bishop
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Cc: Simon Court, Parliamentary Under-Secretary to the Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Baird	Buckendaht	Dalgety	Field	Hainsworth	Hiroa	O'Fee	Raukawa	Sharland	Wong
23-Oct-25	Inagural Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
30-Oct-25	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
12-Nov-25	CCS Meeting	CB					PR						
13-Nov-25	Council Workshop	CB	CB	PR	PR	CB	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
19-Nov-25	Taihape CB	PR											PR
25-Nov-25	Ratana CB	PR							PR				
27-Nov-25	Council Workshop	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR
27-Nov-25	Council Meeting	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR
2-Dec-25	ERWS	PR		PR									PR
3-Dec-25	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
8-Dec-25	HRWS	PR				PR		PR					
11-Dec-25	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-Dec-25	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
18-Dec-25	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
29-Jan-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
4-Feb-26	Santoft DMC	PR								PR			
9-Feb-26	Hunterville RWS	PR				AP		PR					
9-Feb-26	Hunterville CC	CB				PR							
10-Feb-26	TRAK meeting	PR			PR						AP		
10-Feb-26	Ratana CB	PR							PR				
11-Feb-26	Taihape CB	PR		PR									PR
12-Feb-26	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
12-Feb-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
18-Feb-26	Marton CC	CB	PR					PR					
18-Feb-26	Bulls CC	PR								PR		PR	
19-Feb-26	Turakina CC	PR					PR					PR	
25-Feb-26	Council Meeting	CB	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
3-Mar-26	Erewhon RWS			PR									PR
3-Mar-26	Omatane RWS	PR		PR						PR			
5-Mar-26	Assets/Infrastructure Workshop	PR	PR	AT	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
12-Mar-26	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
12-Mar-26	Policy/Planning Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR	PR		PR	PR
12-Mar-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
19-Mar-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	AP	PR	PR	PR
23-Mar-26	Youth Council Meeting	PR			PR						PR		
2-Apr-26	Assets/Infrastructure Meeting	AP	PR	AT	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
2-Apr-26	Risk/Assurance Workshop	AP	PR	AT	AT	PR	AT						PR
2-Apr-26	Finance/Performance Meeting	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR						AP	PR
8-Apr-26	Hunterville CC	AP				PR							

ITEM 9.1

ATTACHMENT 3

Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Baird	Buckendahl	Dalgety	Field	Hainsworth	Hiroa	O'Fee	Raukawa	Sharland	Wong
9-Apr-26	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
9-Apr-26	Council Workshop	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
13-Apr-26	Hunterville RWS	AP				PR							
14-Apr-26	TRAK meeting	AP	PR		PR								
14-Apr-26	Ratana CB	AP							AP				
15-Apr-26	Taihape CB	AP											PR
15-Apr-26	Marton CC	AP	AP					PR					
16-Apr-26	Turakina CC	AP										PR	
20-Apr-26	Youth Council Meeting	AP					PR				AP		
22-Apr-26	Bulls CC	AP								PR		PR	
23-Apr-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
29-Apr-26	Community Grants Committee	PR				PR						PR	PR
30-Apr-26	Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund	PR						PR		PR		PR	
30-Apr-26	Assets/Infrastructure Workshop	PR	PR	AT	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR
30-Apr-26	Finance/Performance Workshop	PR	PR	PR	AT	PR	AT	AT	AT	AT		PR	PR
6-May-26	Council Meeting - AP Hearing	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
7-May-26	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
7-May-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-May-26	Youth Council Meeting	PR					PR				PR		
20-May-26	Creative Communities Meeting	PR					PR						
21-May-26	Council Meeting - AP Deliberations	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR
21-May-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	AP	PR	PR
28-May-26	Assets/Infrastructure Meeting	PR	PR		PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
28-May-26	Risk/Assurance Meeting	PR	PR			PR			AP				PR
28-May-26	Finance/Performance Meeting	PR	PR	PR		PR						PR	PR
3-Jun-26	Hunterville CC	PR			PR								
8-Jun-26	Hunterville RWS	CB				AP		PR					
9-Jun-26	TRAK meeting	PR			PR				AP		AP		
9-Jun-26	Erewhon RWS	PR		PR									PR
9-Jun-26	Ratana CB	PR							AP			AT	
15-Apr-26	Taihape CB	PR		PR									PR
10-Jun-26	Marton CC	CB	PR					PR					
11-Jun-26	Council Meeting		PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-Jun-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR
11-Jun-26	Chief Executive Performance	PR	PR	AT	AT	PR	AT		AP	AT	AT	AT	AT
11-Jun-26	Turakina CC	PR					PR					PR	
15-Jun-26	Youth Council Meeting	PR					PR				PR		PR
17-Jun-26	Bulls CC	PR								PR		PR	
25-Jun-26	Council Meeting	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR

Date	Meeting	HWTM	Wilson	Baird	Buckendaht	Dalgety	Field	Hainsworth	Hiroa	O'Fee	Raukawa	Sharland	Wong
25-Jun-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	AP	PR	PR	AP	PR
25-Jun-26	Finance/Performance Workshop	PR	PR	PR		PR						AT	PR
1-Jul-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR	PR
6-Jul-26	Youth Council Workshop	PR					PR						
8-Jul-26	Santoft DMC	AP								PR		PR	
15-Jul-26	Chief Executive Performance	AT	AT			AT		AP	AP				
23-Jul-26	Council Workshop	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR	PR	PR	AP	PR	PR

Present (and is a member of the committee)	PR
Apology	AP
Absent - no apology received	AB
Not a member of the committee	
Not a member of the committee (but still attended)	AT
Not present as on Council business	CB
Attended via Zoom [this indicator is no longer used]	ZM

ITEM 9.2

9.2 Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti

Author: Grace Taiaoroa, TRAK Member

1. Reason for Report

1.1 A verbal report will be provided during the meeting.

Recommendation

That the Update on Te Rōpū Ahi Kā Komiti be received.

9.3 Cemetery Update - August 2026

Author: Melanie Bovey, Heritage, Culture and Committee Support Officer

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 This is a standing report that will update the Board on new burials within the Rātana Cemetery since the 04 June 26 – 04 August 26

2. There were two burials

- 2.1 Plot 181/ Block 1/ Row 8
- 2.2 Plot 125/ Block 1/ Row 5

Recommendation

That the report Cemetery Update – August 2026 be received.

9.4 Funding Schemes Update - August 2026**Author: Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor****1. Overview**

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitīkei District, these are:
- Community Initiatives Fund
 - Events Sponsorship Scheme
 - Creative Communities Scheme
 - Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

2. Community Initiatives Fund

- 2.1 This is a Council fund intended to support community-based projects in the Rangitīkei District that develop community cohesion and community resilience.
- 2.2 Council allocated \$30,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 2.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 29 April 26 to allocate the funding to the below groups:
- Friends of Taihape Charitable Society - \$10,000
 - Brain Injury Association Whanganui - \$2,250
 - People First New Zealand Inc - \$1,000
 - Taihape Neighbourhood Support - \$2,250
 - Bulls & District Community Trust - Bulls Hip Hop \$2,000
 - Rangitīkei Forest and Bird - \$989.30
 - St Margarets Mobile Art Expo - \$1,000
 - Bulls Toy Library - \$1,920
 - Gumboots Brass and Wind Ensemble - \$1,297
 - Sport Whanganui - \$1,934
 - Taihape & District Museum & Historical Society - \$700
- 2.4 Round one for 2026/27 is now open until Sunday 30 August 26, with a decision being made Thursday 24 September 26.

3. Events Support Scheme

- 3.1 This is a Council fund intended to support events in the district that help to develop community cohesion and reinforce economic growth.
- 3.2 Council has allocated \$25,000 to this fund annually, to be distributed across two separate funding rounds.
- 3.3 Decision was made at the Community Grants Committee meeting on the 29 April 26 to allocate the funding to the below groups:
- Bulls & District Community Trust - Wear-a-Bull Arts
 - Bulls Junior Rugby Club
 - Rangitīkei Netball

- Bulls Rugby Football Club

3.4 Round one for 2026/27 is now open until Sunday 30 August 2026, with a decision being made Thursday 24 September 26.

4. Creative Communities Scheme

4.1 This fund is supplied by Creative NZ and administered by Council. Applications are encouraged from community groups and individuals whose projects:

- Demonstrate growth over time
- Develop and support local artistic communities
- Encourage a transfer of artistic skills
- Support diversity and inclusion
- Projects with a youth focus are also encouraged

4.2 Creative NZ has allocated \$24,397.80 + GST to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis, and this is distributed across two separate funding rounds.

4.3 Decisions for round two for 2025/26 were made on the 20 May 26 and below are the successful groups.

- Developpe Studio
- Square Edge Community Arts
- Mataroa School
- Opaea Marae Trust
- Gumboots Brass and Wind Ensemble
- The Art of Seeing Academy

4.4 Round one for 2026/27 is now open until Sunday 25 October 26, with a decision being made Wednesday 18 November 26.

5. Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund

5.1 This fund is supplied by Sport NZ and administered by Council. The fund is targeted at young people aged between 5 and 19 years and is open to rural sport club teams and rural school club teams with eligible members who require subsidies to assist with transport expenses to local sporting competitions.

5.2 Sport NZ allocated \$9,500 (+ GST) to the Rangitikei District Council on an annual basis. There is one funding round per year.

5.3 The 2026/27 round is now open until Wednesday 31 March 27, with decision being made in April 27.

6. Further Information

6.1 More details about these funding opportunities can be found on the Council website (link below) and this is also where applications can be submitted:

<https://www.rangitikei.govt.nz/district/community/grants-funding>

7. Rangitikei Grant Finder – Grant Guru

7.1 The Rangitikei District Council has joined forces with one of New Zealand and Australia's most powerful grant search engine, GrantGuru, to deliver a free one-stop-shop grants portal.

ITEM 9.4How it works

- 7.2 The Funding Finder hand-picks grants and funding opportunities specific to local businesses and community groups, encompassing all government and private sector grants available. It also provides advice and top tips for finding and applying for grants to maximise the chances of receiving funding.
- 7.3 GrantGuru is regularly updated with new information and grants. It features all council grants and initiatives. It replaces the Generosity NZ portal which previously was available through the Rangitīkei Community Hubs.
- 7.4 Register via the website: <https://grantguru.com/nz/rangitikei>
- 7.5 Please reach out to our Funding Specialist if you require more information about Grant Guru, Charissa Lawlor, charissa.lawlor@rangitikei.govt.nz

Recommendation

That the Funding Schemes Update – August 2026 be received.

10 Meeting Closed.