

ORDER PAPER

TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 12 August 2026

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Chair: Ms Gill Duncan

Deputy Chair: Mr Peter Kipling- Arthur

Membership: Ms De-Anna Green
Ms Melanie Pera
Cr Diana Baird
Cr Jeff Wong

Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor, 0800 422 522 (ext. 4403), or via email

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

Notice is hereby given that a Taihape Community Board Meeting of the Rangitīkei District Council will be held in the Kokako Street Pavilion, 2 Kokako Street, Taihape on Wednesday, 12 August 2026 at 5.30pm.

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	14
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings	14
8	Chair's Report	16
8.1	Chair's Report - August 2026.....	16
9	Reports for Information.....	18
9.1	Verbal Update - Northern Area and Property Manager	18
9.2	Mayor's Report - July 2026.....	19
9.3	Funding Schemes Update - August 2026	35
10	Discussion Items.....	38
10.1	NZTA Speed Change Submission	38
10.2	Community Gardens.....	39
10.3	Taihape Museum Request for Payment.....	40
11	Meeting Closed.	41

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: Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The minutes from **Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 10 June 2026** are attached.

Attachments

1. **Taihape Community Board Meeting - 10 June 2026**

Recommendation

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 10 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: TAIHAPE COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING

Date: Wednesday, 10 June 2026
Time: 5.40pm
Venue: Kokako Street Pavilion
2 Kokako Street
Taihape

Present

Mr Peter Kipling-Arthur
HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Jeff Wong
Ms De-Anna Green
Ms Melanie Pera
Mrs Gill Duncan
Cr Diana Baird

In attendance

Ms Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager
Ms Sheryl Srhoj, Administration

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
7.1	Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings	4
7	Chair's Report	4
8.1	Chair's Report - June 2026.....	4
8	Reports for Information.....	4
9.1	Verbal Update- Northern Area and Property Manager	4
9.2	Rangitikei at the table: June Engagement on Simplifying Local Government	6
9.3	Taihape Community Board - Officer Analysis of Submissions	6
9.4	Taihape Community Board Workshop	6
9.5	Small Projects Fund Update - June 2026.....	7
9.6	Mayor's Report - June 2026	7
9	Discussion Items.....	8
10.1	Member moving out of Taihape Ward.....	8
10.2	Taihape Town Improvements	8

1 Welcome / Prayer

Ms Pera opened the meeting at 5.40pm with a Karakia.

2 Apologies

No apologies received.

3 Public Forum

- Paul Keenan outlined his proposal to introduce a cleanfill solution that could be modelled in the Rangitikei Northern Ward. He proposed to source, certify and run cleanfill sites at multiple locations around the network that would comply with all requirements. The benefits of such sites would be that the cleanfill material would only need to be transported the minimal distance, therefore minimising the carbon footprint and in turn would provide a cost saving to the ratepayer.
- Memory Lyon and Te Whaiwhaia Ritchie, Co-Leaders of Te Kāhui Ako o Mōkai Patea were seeking feedback from the Board regarding their proposal for a series of cultural art panels to be installed within the central CBD. The panels' art work would be designed from the illustrations of the children's story book Te Haerenga o Tamatea Whenua – The journey of Tamatea Pokai Whenua. This book which is written by local kaumatua Rihari Steedman and Te Kāhui Ako o Mōkai Patea is well loved and familiar with our young people.
- Michael Andrews, along with Lulu Simi and Paul McKay, spoke on behalf of the Taihape Response Group. They advised that the group was currently working on a welfare plan which would be put in place in the event of a future civil defence event. They acknowledged that there had been a number of learnings from the recent weather event.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Mr Kipling-Arthur declared a conflict of interest regarding the tabled item from the Taihape Museum and Historical Society.

Ms Pera declared a conflict of interest in regard to the presentation from Memory Lyon and Te Whaiwhaia Ritchie.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

The Chair agreed to take the tabled item from the Taihape Museum and Historical Society under Item 9.5 - Small Projects Fund Update – June 2026.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

The Chair asked that the 15 April 2026 minutes be amended to record that Ms Green had opened the meeting with a Karakia.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/021

That the minutes of Taihape Community Board Meeting held on 15 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 P Kipling-Arthur/Ms D Green. Carried

7 Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings

Undertaking:

The Board requested that an updated report be provided.

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - June 2026

The Chair took her report as read.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/022

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

Mrs G Duncan/Mr P Kipling-Arthur. Carried

9 Reports for Information

9.1 Verbal Update- Northern Area and Property Manager

The Northern Area and Property Manager provided a verbal update to the meeting. The following activities were noted.

Shop Local Campaign

Bag design and colour options for the Taihape Town shopping bags were tabled with members choosing the icon gumboot design on a yellow bag. The bags would be distributed later in the year as part of the annual "Shop Local Campaign".

Taihape Youth Update

Pink Friday – Anti Bullying

The Lobby – alongside Taihape Health and Heartlands – supported Pink Friday Anti Bullying with rangatahi helping decorate mini cupcakes and by providing a free BBQ and cupcakes to our community.

Youth Week

The Lobby hosted a school event with 22 rangatahi participating in fun activities. Four local Kura were supported with resources to provide fun events throughout the week. This initiative was also supported by Sport Whanganui and Heartland Services.

Butchery programme with Taihape Area School Agricultural Class – Processing a Pig, a Deer and a Mutton

The Lobby worked alongside Taihape Area School and facilitated with Tussock Meats in Waiouru, who came down and helped the rangatahi through the process of breaking down the carcass into different meats and rolling roasts with the mutton. The rangatahi will process the meats through their hospitality class. This is going to be sustained through the school moving forward.

Learner Licensing

The Lobby worked collaboratively with Mayors Task Force for Jobs to support our rangatahi coming through the Lobby with Licensing. It has been confirmed that Taihape Area School students will receive Literacy credits when completing their learner license.

Disc Golf

There has been positive feedback received from the local community along with travellers who have been providing feedback through their local Disc Golf pages.

Three local schools have been utilizing the course with others within the wider district, intending to utilize the course in the future. An interschool competition to be planned for the end of year with support from Sport Whanganui and Disc Golf NZ.

Emergency Management

Three members of Taihape Community Response Group have formed a working group to create an Action Plan that supports the Taihape Community Response Plan. Paul Chaffe had a meeting with the full Taihape Response Group last week and in July, will provide them a 2-hour session on CDEM basics including CIMS (Co-ordinated Incident Management System), which is NZ's official framework for managing emergencies and incidents of all scales and ensures different responding agencies (such as emergency services, councils, and private organisations) can communicate and work together seamlessly during a disaster or crisis.

Taihape Grandstand Restoration Programme

The committee is currently considering Offers of Service.

Hautapu River Park Bridges

The Hautapu River Park Collective intends to have bridges one and five useable by mid-September.

Taihape Town Hall Banner

Ms Duncan advised that she had received an email from the Taihape Community Development Trust requesting that the Taihape Town hall banner lines that run across the main street be reinstated as part of the town hall upgrade.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/023

That the Verbal Update - Northern Area and Property Manager be received.

Ms D Green/Ms M Pera. Carried

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

The report was taken as read.

The Board is to arrange a "Taihape Talking Table" to engage with the community regarding this matter.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/024

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

Mr P Kipling-Arthur/Ms D Green. Carried

9.3 Taihape Community Board - Officer Analysis of Submissions

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/025

That the report Taihape Community Board - Officer Analysis of Submissions be received.

Ms M Pera/Mrs G Duncan. Carried

9.4 Taihape Community Board Workshop

Ms Pera spoke to the Taihape Community Board Workshop report. She agreed to draft a letter to Council requesting that in the new triennium, Taihape Community Board members be invited to attend the northern marae tours.

Mr Kipling-Arthur advised that it had been determined that Council was responsible for the AED unit currently outside of Taihape New World. It was suggested that an AED unit be purchased for the Ngā Awa Block. These items are to be discussed further at the Board's next workshop.

There was further discussion on the need for a cost effective toilet at the Taihape Cemetery along with the availability of a water source by the Dixon Way entrance. It was suggested that Chris Bennett be invited to the Board's July workshop to speak to these items.

Mr Kipling-Arthur is to follow up with Taihape Engineering regarding the replacement of the Achilles corner flagpole.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/026

That the item Taihape Community Board Workshop be received.

Ms M Pera/Ms D Green. Carried

9.5 Small Projects Fund Update - June 2026

The Board discussed the funding request of \$986.00 from the Taihape Museum and Historical Society. The funds were required to purchase basic tools and materials which would enable the volunteers to undertake maintenance on the number of the museums tractors and stationary engines. In the past this work had been undertaken by retired farmers who had used their own tools.

It was suggested that this would be a great initiative for our rangatahi and there was the potential to work in with Taihape Area School.

There was some concern that this potentially wouldn't be a one-off request, noting that some of the funds were targeted for consumables.

The Board agreed to support this funding request on the condition that the vehicles were made available for public events such as the Christmas Parade and other community events.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/027

That the Taihape Community Board approves payment of \$986.00 to Taihape Museum and Historical Society to purchase basic tools and materials and that this be funded from the Small Project Fund.

Ms D Green/Mrs G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/028

That the report Small Projects Fund Update – June 2026 be received.

Mrs G Duncan/Ms D Green. Carried

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/029

That the Taihape Community Board does recommend to Council to carry forward earmarked funds of \$190.00 for the rural workshops and \$986.00 to the Taihape Museum and Historical Society.

Ms M Pera/Ms D Green. Carried

9.6 Mayor's Report - June 2026

HWTM took his report as read. He wished to acknowledged Elizabeth Mortland who had been awarded a King's Service Medal for her service to the Taihape community.

Resolved minute number 26/TCB/030

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

Mrs G Duncan/Mr P Kipling-Arthur. Carried

10 Discussion Items

10.1 Member moving out of Taihape Ward

Mr Kipling-Arthur will be shifting out of the district but will continue to represent the Taihape Ward. Board Members were supportive of this decision.

10.2 Taihape Town Improvements

Members noted that they had enjoyed the Taihape walkabout with Council's Economic Lead. Mr Kipling-Arthur is to source further information regarding the Taihape rose garden and Achillies Corner with a view to install a story board in this location.

Ms Pera closed the meeting at 8.00pm with a Karakia.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Taihape Community Board held on 12 August 2026.

.....
Chairperson

ITEM 7.1

7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings**7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Taihape Community Board Meetings**

Author: Petra Fleming, Governance Advisor

1. Reason for Report

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

Current Follow-up Actions

Item	From Meeting Date	Details	Person Assigned	Status Comments	Status
		Cemetery toilets and handwashing facilities	Peter KA	Opportunity to update.	In progress
		Kahui Ako screens	Mel	Opportunity to update.	In progress
1	9-Apr-26	New World AED update and payment	Peter KA	Opportunity to update.	In progress
3	9-Apr-26	Marae Visits	Mel	Opportunity for board to discuss.	In progress

8 Chair's Report

8.1 Chair's Report - August 2026

Author: Gill Duncan, Chair

Taihape Community Board Chair's Report 12 August 2026

Congratulations to our Senior Taihape Area School students who presented to us this evening. The courage to stand up before an audience, however friendly, is commendable and inspiring to see our next leaders developing their opinions and ability to deliver with conviction. Thank you to Ali Fargher, RDC Customer Services, and TAS teacher support.

Perhaps the biggest item our Board has, this evening, is to sign off our submission to the NZTA/Waka Kotahi proposal to lower the Speed limit for Taihape south of Winiata Marae, north to the current 50K signs into town. Many thanks to Ms Harris who has helped collate our position that, based on many years of Community petitioning and consistent recent feedback, is strongly in favour of this move. Thanks must also go to our Mayor who has taken the many letters, requesting lowering the speed limits, to NZTA over the years to put our case.

The Keep Taihape Beautiful (KTB), group, led by Jan Byford, has been working with Council to adapt the new Flag Trax to Taihape's existing light installations. This has not been straightforward, but a great solution has been worked out. Thank you to Roding and our very own KTB for your investment in time, money and care of our town.

Achilles Corner is a TCB project that has come from RDC's ability to put in more seating in Taihape. Jarrod Calkin, RDC Manager Community & Economy, has confirmed funding for a "picnic" table and bench seating that Parks and Reserves can install at the rose garden. Taihape Area School has been contacted to see if their students could use the building of the table as part of their work stream and RSA President, Rob Webb is keen to support the project. Most notably, I have been contacted by a local family of a crew member who would like to contribute to the project with another close contact also given. This is exciting in that it lends a relevance and closer connection to the Achilles story now that our most notable crew member, Monty Winchcombe, who regularly contacted the Council office to remind them to raise the flags, is no longer with us. Thank you to Taihape Museum and Ms Prince for information on the Achilles story, historic dates and their significance.

Lastly, thank you to Ms Kezia Spence for her fabulous support of our Board and every best wish for her new role. We can now welcome Ms Petra Fleming who will be our main RDC staff support. We look forward to working with you.

Workshop Notice

Taihape Community Board Workshop – 9 September 26, 5.00pm at Ōhingaiti Hall.

The community is invited and all are welcome. Supper is provided.

Recommendation 1

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

ITEM 9.1**9 Reports for Information****9.1 Verbal Update - Northern Area and Property Manager**

Author: Gaylene Prince, Northern Area and Property Manager

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 Ms Prince will provide an update to the committee on council and requested items from the Taihape Community Board.

Recommendation

That the Verbal Update - Northern Area and Property Manager be received.

9.2 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.

ITEM 9.2

On 21 July I attended the Manawātū-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 raised 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

ITEM 9.2

	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
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/Taihape 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

ITEM 9.2**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

ITEM 9.2
ATTACHMENT 1

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



ITEM 9.2

ATTACHMENT 2

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

Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand | +64 4 817 6802 | c.bishop@ministers.govt.nz

ITEM 9.2

ATTACHMENT 3

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							

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		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

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

- 1.1 Council currently administers four funding schemes for the Rangitikei 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 Rangitikei 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
 - Rangitikei 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
 - Rangitikei Netball

ITEM 9.3

- 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.

How 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 Rangitikei 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 Discussion Items

10.1 NZTA Speed Change Submission

Author: Gill Duncan, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To complete and sign off on a feedback submission to NZTA regarding the speed limit change proposals for Taihape South and Winiata Marae.

Recommendation

That the Taihape Community Board approves/does not approve the drafted feedback submission to be submitted to NZTA regarding the speed limit change proposals for Taihape South and Winiata Marae.

10.2 Community Gardens

Author: Gill Duncan, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 To discuss coordinating the request from the Community Gardens for 4 hours paid gardener.

Recommendation

[If needed]

ITEM 10.3**10.3 Taihape Museum Request for Payment**

Author: Gill Duncan, Chair

1. Reason for Report

- 1.1 The Taihape and District Historical Museum Society has gathered information on the Achilles story, dates and significance for the Taihape Community Board.
- 1.2 There is an invoice from The Taihape and District Historical Museum Society for \$25.00 to cover 1.5 hours research.

Recommendation

That Taihape Community Board approves/does not approve the payment of \$25.00 including GST to The Taihape and District Historical Museum Society for the research done on the Achilles.

11 Meeting Closed.