



ATTACHMENTS

Ordinary Council Meeting

28 May 2024

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**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON TUESDAY, 30 APRIL 2024 AT 1.00PM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher (via MS Teams), Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Property Manager (S Attenborough), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), District Customer Relations Manager (T Russell), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Legal and Governance Manager (N McAdie), People and Culture Manager (L Nienhuser), Digital Content Creator (C Hollinger), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Executive Assistant (M Bennett), Executive Assistant (M Niva), Policy Advisor (H Wood), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong), Senior Financial Accountant (A Snell), Senior Emergency Management Advisor (H Nicholson), Commercial Manager (P Handcock), Resource Consents Manager (H Williams), Policy Advisor Resource Management (C Pilkington), Team Leader – Resource Management (E O'Callaghan), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Three members of the public

Notes: (i) Cr Kevin Taylor opened the meeting with a karakia.

(ii) Cr Kevin Taylor left the meeting at 2.35pm and Cr Anna Park left the meeting at 2.37pm. They were not present for resolutions TDC202404/26-27.

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202404/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Christine Rankin

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

That the apologies received from Crs Kylie Leonard and Kirsty Trueman be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/13 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

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4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**4.1 EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 19 MARCH 2024****TDC202404/14 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd
Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That the minutes of the extraordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 March 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/14 above.

4.2 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 MARCH 2024**TDC202404/15 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the public and confidential minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 26 March 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/15 above.

4.3 EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 16 APRIL 2024**TDC202404/16 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade
Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 April 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/16 above.

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING**5.1 SETTING THE 2024-25 RATES LATE**

The General Manager Organisation Performance summarised the report and confirmed the following:

- A communications plan would be carried out to inform the community and encourage voluntary payments between the start of the financial year (1 July) and the first instalment invoice proposed on 1 October 2024.
- While both options proposed came with substantial costs, option 2 required striking the rates twice which was an administration burden and required additional support from the system provider.
- Either option would incur additional administration and 'washup' once the Long-term Plan 2024-34 (LTP) was adopted and rates were set.

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- A database showing projected rates increases for properties would be made available during the LTP consultation period but it would not provide the final figure until the LTP was adopted.

TDC202404/17 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council collects rates for the 2024-25 rating year over three (3) equal instalments with due dates 20 November 2024, 20 February 2025, and 20 May 2025.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/17 above.

5.2 APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL CONTROLLERS**TDC202404/18 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council receives the information regarding the appointment of a Local Controller, Mr Steve Giles.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/18 above.

5.3 FUNDING APPLICATION TO NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITIES TRUST - OWEN DELANY PARK

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor summarised the report and confirmed that officers were applying for the maximum amount permitted.

TDC202404/19 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council resolves to apply for funding from New Zealand Communities Trust for a total of \$100,000.00 (excluding GST) for delivery of phase one of development in the Owen Delany Park project.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/19 above.

5.4 WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL DRAFT ACCORD FOR BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY

The Policy Advisor summarised the report and confirmed that Lake Taupō and its waterways would be a main focus for Taupō District Council.

Members expressed that they were not happy with how Waikato Regional Council managed matters concerning property rights and the Minister had put a pause on this workstream for this reason. Both Māori Trust incorporations and privately owned landowners were affected. This accord with Waikato Regional Council signalled that the behaviour would not change and that they were continuing with identifying Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) that impacted landowners.

However, most supported Taupō District Council (TDC) being a signatory of the accord so that TDC would be part of creating and shaping the biodiversity strategy and would be heard at a regional level.

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TDC202404/20 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor
Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council

1. receives the Waikato Biodiversity Draft Accord; and
2. agrees to become a signatory to the Waikato Regional Council Biodiversity Accord in preparation for establishment of the Waikato Regional Biodiversity Strategy.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting except for Crs Yvonne Westerman, Sandra Greenslade, Danny Loughlin and Duncan Campbell voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/20 above. Crs Yvonne Westerman, Sandra Greenslade, and Danny Loughlin voted against resolution TDC202404/20 above. Cr Duncan Campbell abstained from voting.

5.5 ADOPTION OF SUBMISSION ON WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL'S LONG-TERM PLAN

The Policy Advisor reiterated that feedback provided by elected members at the workshop on 18 April had been incorporated into the submission.

Elected members thanked Council officers for reflecting Taupō District Council's position.

TDC202404/21 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That Council adopts the attached submission on the Waikato Regional Council's Long-term Plan.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/21 above.

5.6 ADOPTION OF THE TRAFFIC BYLAW FOR CONSULTATION

The Policy Advisor summarised the report and in response to a question from a member, agreed to align the definitions of the shared pathways with the definitions provided in supporting legislation.

TDC202404/22 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council adopts the attached statement of proposal and reviewed Traffic Bylaw for consultation, noting that the bylaw is still the most appropriate way to address the traffic related issues identified.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/22 above.

5.7 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - MARCH 2024

The Chief Executive highlighted that all the reports from the Executive Team were around the Long-term Plan and that the team were looking forward to the meeting to held on Friday of that week which would have the Long-term Plan Consultation document and supporting information adopted for consultation following a

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review by Audit New Zealand.

The Senior Financial Accountant and Finance Manager summarised the Financial Summary and Treasury Report. The Finance Manager explained that there were two non compliant measures in the Investment Management part of the Treasury Report which were explained in the notes underneath. The recommendation reflected this breach and was amended to define that it would be rectified by 30 September 2024.

The Project Management Office Manager advised that four projects in particular had changed status favourably. The Three Waters Reform Activities project was becoming more certain as more detail around the new legislation was provided. The Long-term Plan work was back on track and the Whangamata Road Improvements included a safe crossing of the road at the intersection with Kinloch Road.

The Drinking Water Standards projects were being re-baselined. She explained that this happened when the Project Manager worked with the supplier and eliminated the previous variances. If the variances were externally driven such as economic or geotechnical, this could result in an extension of time. Rather than continuously reporting that a project was behind schedule, re-baselining allowed the status report to reflect the new timeline. She clarified that there was not necessarily a cost implication to Council because funding had been set aside in the Long-term Plan, and there was a bow wave from previous financial years.

In answer to a question, it was confirmed that the structural design for the poles at Owen Delany Park had been completed. From 6 May onwards there would be added fencing and installation of foundations would be commenced. The lighting was scheduled to be completed by the end of September 2024.

The Project Management Office Manager advised that while there had been delays this year to projects, spend and progress usually happened in the last couple of months of the financial year. Delays had been due to geotechnical challenges and to longer than anticipated stakeholder engagement. While more comprehensive stakeholder engagement took longer, it provided better outcomes.

TDC202404/23 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council

1. notes the information contained in the Performance Report for the month of March 2024; and
2. approves a temporary breach of the Treasury Management Policy performance measure relating to "Financial investment interest/maturity limits" until the amended Policy is adopted as part of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 by 30 September 2024.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/23 above.

5.8 204 CROWN ROAD - DECLARATION OF LAND AS SURPLUS UNDER PUBLIC WORKS ACT

The Commercial Manager summarised the report and noted that it was a procedural item under the Public Works Act 1981. He clarified that money raised from the sale of this land (if declared surplus) would go into Council's property reserve and be ring-fenced. The acting Manager Housing and Property Investment confirmed that extensive geotechnical sampling had been done as part of engineering and civil work design. Any thermal and geothermal areas would be identified through the resource consenting process. Local hapū would be informed around what was happening to the land. The land was zoned commercial, not residential so had not been offered to other Government agencies such as Kainga Ora under the Public Works Act 1981.

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TDC202404/24 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd
Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That Council declares as surplus to public work requirements, for the purposes of s40(1) of the Public Works Act 1981, the land at 204 Crown Road (but excluding Section 22 SO 438781 and 6,608 m² (subject to survey) shown proposed Lot 1 on the scheme plan of subdivision 2157-2).

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/24 above.

5.9 COUNCIL ENGAGEMENTS MAY 2024, APPOINTMENTS, AND TRAINING AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The General Manager Organisation Performance confirmed that Audit New Zealand required as long as possible to audit the Long-term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document and supporting information which is why there were two Council meetings in the last week of May. The meeting on 31 May was to adopt the LTP Consultation Document and supporting information for consultation following a review by Audit New Zealand.

TDC202404/25 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson
Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council receives the information relating to engagements for May 2024.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/25 above.

5.10 MEMBERS' PORTFOLIO UPDATES

The following members' reports were received:

Cr Kevin Taylor

- Hearings on the draft Waikato Regional Land Transport Plan 2024-2054 had been held and deliberations were yet to occur.

Cr Rachel Shepherd

- Attended the Sports Advisory Council meeting to distribute community sports grants. Unfortunately there was only \$20k to distribute and it had been oversubscribed so some were disappointed.

Cr Kevin Taylor left the meeting at this point (2.25pm).

- Attended the Waiora Trust meeting to distribute the Social Services Community Grant. Again, this was oversubscribed with over \$186k requested but only \$50k to distribute. Both grants distributions meetings were tough.

Cr Karam Fletcher

- Had been delivering civic education to rangatahi of Taupō schools and also with the Tūrangi rangatahi hub. He was keeping them informed about what Council did and why it was important.
- Congratulated Sharlyn Holt, newly appointed Principal of Tongariro School who had been welcomed onto Hirangi marae the previous day. It was awesome that she was following Whakaaro Māori by connecting with mana whenua and seeking support. It was a nice way for her to start her tenure at Tongariro School.

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- Amplify were supporting Tech Week from 20-26 May 2024 and he encouraged people to get in there and upskill. Technology continued to move forward and everyone needed to move with it.

Cr John Williamson

- Attended an online meeting with representatives from Creative Waikato and others from Creative Taupō. Together, they were working towards a collaborative approach going forward.
- Creative Taupō had also distributed community grants that were oversubscribed.
- Taupō Museum and Taupō District Council hosted a Night at the Museum movie screening and representatives from the now disestablished Friends of the Museum had run a sausage sizzle.

Cr Danny Loughlin

- Had met with Cr Jennifer Nickel from Waikato Regional Council to share information with each other.

Cr Anna Park

- The Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Joint Committee had approved Mr Steve Giles as a local controller as per item 5.2 on the agenda. A Taupō District Council Emergency Management Committee meeting would be held on 13 May. On 10 May Taupō District Council would hold a Civil Defence exercise which would be a good opportunity to learn what was not done well.
- Attended the integrated intermediate Civil Defence training.
- Hosted an international group from China at a dinner.
- Hosted the Korea National Disaster Association who were made up of representatives from different parts of South Korea and were interested in volcanoes.
- On behalf of Cr Kirsty Trueman, she advised that the Mangakino Pouakani Representative Group distributed community grants which had been oversubscribed but were divided up as well as they could be.
- Supercars was an awesome event and she extended thanks to all the people of Taupō district that had contributed over the four seasons in three days.

Cr Yvonne Westerman

- Attended the Acacia Bay Residents Association monthly meeting.
- Attended the Kids Greening Taupō strategy session on 11 April which had good outcomes.

Cr Duncan Campbell

- Supported Cr Anna Park's comments regarding the recent Supercars event in Taupō.
- Attended the 6am service on ANZAC Day.
- Attended the Climate Change Commission meeting on 24 April.

Cr Anna Park left the meeting at this point (2.37pm).

Cr Sandra Greenslade

- The Tongariro Representative Group held a meeting at the Otūkou Marae on 24 April which was important for the committee and great that locals also attended.
- Attended the dawn service at little Waihi on ANZAC day which was the most well attended that venue had ever had. The new president of the Tokaanu-Tūrangi Returned Service Association conducted the civic ceremony at 11am.
- Amplify would host Tūrangi After 5 the following Friday at Tūwharetoa FM, Tūrangi with a focus on technology.
- The Community Volunteer Group in Tūrangi had created poppies for the roundabout in Tūrangi for ANZAC day.
- Also enjoyed the Supercars event in Taupō from 19 to 21 April.

Mayor David Trewavas

- Attended the Miraka Field Day with Cr Yvonne Westerman.
- Attended the 2024 NZ Veterans Table Tennis Tournament official opening.
- Attended the Omori Kuratau Charitable Trust Easter Market.

- Attended the Teddy Bear Picnic – children’s day.
- Attended the Repair Café and last farmers market.
- Attended the combined sector meeting in Wellington with the Chief Executive Julie Gardyne.
- Attended the 20 year celebration at PermaPine along with Sir Buck Shelford. PermaPine’s latest export was 200 poles to the Maldives for underwater bures.
- Attended the Taupō 60s Up meeting at the Taupō Bowling Club.
- Attended the Supercars events and noted that the drivers said when they were planting trees with Greening Taupō that they wished they could stay longer in Taupō.
- Attended the dawn service on ANZAC day at little Waihi and then the civic ceremony in Taupō.

TDC202404/26 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman
 Seconded: Cr Duncan Campbell

That Council receives the portfolio updates from members.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/26 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

TDC202404/27 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
 Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48[1] of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<p>Agenda Item No: 6.1 30 Māhoe Street - Declaration of Land as Surplus and Authority to Sell</p>	<p>Section 7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities</p> <p>Section 7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable [the Council] to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)</p>	<p>Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7</p>

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/27 above.

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The meeting closed at 3.01pm with a karakia from Cr Rachel Shepherd.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 May 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON FRIDAY, 3 MAY 2024 AT 9.30AM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard (via MS Teams from 9.35am), Cr Danny Loughlin (from 9.32am), Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery (T Hale), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Senior Financial Planner (J Caldwell), Revenue Manager (T Wilkinson), Communications Team Lead (D Beck), Senior Policy Advisor (P Caruana), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Team Leader Policy – Resource Management (E O’Callaghan), Policy Advisor – Resource Management (C Pilkington), Programme Manager (J Walton), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: No members of the public

- Notes:
- (i) All present opened and closed the meeting with a karakia.
 - (ii) Cr Danny Loughlin entered the meeting at 9.32am. He was not present for resolution TDC202405/01.
 - (iii) Cr Kylie Leonard entered the meeting via MS Teams at 9.35am. She was not present for resolution TDC202405/01.

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202405/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That the apologies received from Crs Karam Fletcher, Cr Kirsty Trueman for absence, and Cr Danny Loughlin for lateness be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/01 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING**5.1 APPROVAL OF SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR THE DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FOR AUDIT NEW ZEALAND CONSIDERATION**

Cr Danny Loughlin entered the meeting at this point (9.32am).

The Senior Policy Advisor advised that the Risk and Assurance Committee had considered the draft Consultation Document and supporting information at its meeting the previous day and had suggested some minor changes which she displayed on the screen (A3543853).

Cr Kylie Leonard entered the meeting via MS Teams at this point (9.35am).

Members commented that the independent Chair and independent representative of the Risk and Assurance Committee had challenged assumptions and considered all the documentation thoroughly. Members acknowledged and thanked all involved, particularly the Finance team given the pressure the team had worked under, and uncontrollable delays due to the changes imposed by central government.

TDC202405/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council approves the following draft supporting information subject to editorial changes recommended by the Risk and Assurance Committee for the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document for consultation subject to changes required as part of the audit process:

- a. Draft Accounting Policies
- b. Draft Funding Impact Statement
- c. Draft financial information

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/02 above.

5.2 APPROVAL OF THE (DRAFT) DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

The Senior Policy Advisor summarised the report and highlighted that growth projects were higher so the total cost was divided by a higher number.

The General Manager Organisation Performance added that development contributions could only be collected for projects related to growth. Growth costs had increased as well as the projections so the number of extra projects since the last Long-term Plan had increased. This would result in more revenue overall. Water projects were largely levels of service, not growth projects so only the growth share of water projects had been identified. An external review had been carried out to test this and feedback was incorporated in the policy.

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TDC202405/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council approves the draft Development Contributions Policy subject to editorial changes recommended by the Risk and Assurance Committee provided in Attachment 1 for consultation subject to changes required as part of the audit process.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/03 above.

5.3 DRAFT 2024-34 FINANCIAL STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION

The General Manager Organisation Performance advised that the Risk and Assurance Committee had discussed the draft financial strategy in detail at its meeting the previous day. She summarised the report and highlighted that considering the challenging environment, Council had landed in a financially prudent place without sacrificing its objectives and priorities.

TDC202405/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman
Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council approves the draft Financial Strategy 2024-34 for consultation subject to changes required as part of the audit process and/or design process.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/04 above.

5.4 DRAFT 2024 INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY FOR CONSULTATION

The Team Leader Corporate Planning summarised the report and the draft Infrastructure Strategy.

The Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery added that with a 30 year horizon a significant amount of work was required to be done so there were some placeholders for projects. Changes in the compliance and legislative space had been taken into account and asset managers had moved the focus accordingly in the roading and three waters areas. Changes suggested by the Risk and Assurance Committee would be taken into account.

One member disagreed with the base assumptions taken and statements made for the proposed Northern Access project.

TDC202405/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Danny Loughlin
Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council approves the draft Infrastructure Strategy 2024 subject to editorial changes recommended by the Risk and Assurance Committee for consultation subject to changes required as part of the audit process.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting except Cr Duncan Campbell voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/05 above. Cr Duncan Campbell voted against resolution TDC202405/05 above.

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5.5 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-34 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT FOR AUDIT NEW ZEALAND CONSIDERATION

The General Manager People and Community Partnerships introduced the item and advised that it was around 24 pages providing a bite-size take of what was contained in all of the supporting Long-term Plan documents.

The Senior Policy Advisor added that following feedback from the Risk and Assurance Committee the previous day, one of the questions had been changed (A3543853).

Members were encouraged to attend community engagement sessions throughout June and be seen as the faces of the Long-term Plan 2024-34.

One member was not happy to take ownership of the capital works programme from year one of the Long-term Plan.

The Chief Executive confirmed that members were obliged to comply with the principles of consultation set out in section 82 of the Local Government Act 2002 which included receiving views with an open mind.

TDC202405/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That Council approve the draft Long-term Plan 2024-34 Consultation Document subject to editorial changes recommended by the Risk and Assurance Committee for consultation subject to changes required as part of the audit process. A designed version will be presented for adoption on 31 May, this will have a different look and feel and some content changes as a result of suggestions through the audit process.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting except Cr Duncan Campbell voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/06 above. Cr Duncan Campbell abstained from voting on resolution TDC202405/06 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 10.35am with a karakia from all present.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 May 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON

Extraordinary Council Meeting Minutes

23 April 2024

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON TUESDAY, 23 APRIL 2024 AT 2.00PM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher (via MS Teams), Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Danny Loughlin (from 2.02pm), Cr Anna Park, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery (T Hale), Legal and Governance Manager (N McAdie), Executive Manager to the Mayor (J Later), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Communications Manager (L McMichael), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Community Engagement and Development Manager (H Tattle), Infrastructure Manager (R Stokes), Environmental Impact Manager (B Aitken), Acting Manager Housing and Property Investment (C Haskell), Resource Consents Manager (H Williams), Development Manager (R Leblanc), Corporate Solicitor (F Bramwell), Senior Solicitor (K Hollman), Senior Policy Advisor (E O'Callaghan), Senior Policy Advisor (K Goode), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Policy Advisor (C Pilkington), Senior Project Manager Project Management Office (P Bradshaw), Contracts Engineer (P Zareie), Waste Minimisation Officer (S Hanson), Commercial Manager (P Handcock), Programme Manager (J Walton), Communications Advisor (C Harrison), Executive Assistant (M Bennett), Executive Assistant (M Niva), Governance Quality Manager (S James)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Four members of the public

1 KARAKIA

Cr Anna Park recited the Taupō District Council opening karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202404/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That the apologies received from Crs Danny Loughlin (for lateness) and Kirsty Trueman (for absence) be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/10 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Prior to consideration of agenda item 4.2 (East Urban Lands Development Partner and Long-term Plan Options), Cr Danny Loughlin noted his interest in the same building (Te Whare Hono ō Tūwharetoa) of one of the EUL consortium parties. Cr Loughlin abstained from voting on the item.

4 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING**4.1 KERBSIDE RUBBISH AND RECYCLING OPTIONS FOR INCLUSION IN THE LONG-TERM PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

Cr Danny Loughlin entered the meeting at this point (2.02pm).

The Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery highlighted some key figures: 40% of current waste to landfill could be diverted at the kerbside; on average 27% of the contents of all rubbish bags collected at the kerbside consisted of organic material; and diverting up to 1,000 tonnes of food scraps from landfill would significantly reduce methane emissions and therefore Council's Emissions Trading Scheme costs.

In answer to questions, the Environmental Impact Manager advised that:

- It was impossible to have a service which exactly suited the needs of everybody in the district. The team would work with communities to find solutions to issues wherever possible, for example in small holiday areas and for people with medical issues requiring assistance to manage wheelie bins.
- Wheelie bins would support recycling – there was currently no limit on the amount of waste people could leave at the gate. It would take time for people to get used to using the bins. The bin set would be similar to bins already in use elsewhere in New Zealand.
- Food waste could either be converted to ecogas, or sent to MyNoke earthworm farms.

Members discussed the options for kerbside rubbish and recycling collection, to be included in the draft Long-term Plan 2024/34 consultation document. It was hoped that more information would be available prior to final adoption of the Long-term Plan 2024/34, including financial impacts of central government's waste levy contribution.

Members decided to proceed with Option 1 – rates-funded wheelie bins as Council's preferred option for kerbside rubbish and recycling collection in the consultation document for the draft Long-term Plan 2024/34 consultation.

TDC202404/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Danny Loughlin

1. That in the Long-term Plan 2024-34 consultation document, Council includes the following options for the issue, 'kerbside rubbish and recycling collection':
 - a. Option 1 – rates-funded wheelie bins.
 - b. Option 2 – 'pay-as-you-throw' bag collection.
2. That Council identifies Option 1 – rates funded wheelie bins, as its preferred option for the issue 'kerbside rubbish and recycling collection' in the Long-term Plan 2024-34 consultation document.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/11 above.

4.2 EAST URBAN LANDS (EUL) DEVELOPMENT PARTNER & LONG-TERM PLAN OPTIONS

The General Manager Organisation Performance explained that the East Urban Lands (EUL) project was at a point where Council decisions were required, including the option for Stage 1B and Stage 2 to be consulted on as part of the Long-term Plan 2024/34. She confirmed that the proposals would have no impact on rates.

In answer to a question, the Acting Manager Housing and Property Investment advised that the development would include some smaller section sizes, with two-storied houses, some without garaging or ensuites but still of a great quality. The General Manager Organisation Performance added that design elements would be key to providing a new, different product unavailable in the current market.

Members decided to proceed with the proposals. The following points were noted:

- The proposals were consistent with Council's Housing Strategy.
- The proposed developer had a community focus; the project was not purely profit-based.
- Very few councils were in a position to be able to use land and therefore control outcomes favourable to the community.
- Past good decision-making of the Council was acknowledged.
- The development was a positive step forward and would provide much-needed homes for people, including those wishing to move to the Taupō district.

TDC202404/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Christine Rankin
 Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council:

1. **Approves** proceeding with an agreement for the sale of Stage 1 & 2 of Council's East Urban Lands, to Council's preferred development partner (a consortium incorporating Penny Homes Limited, Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust, and Classic Builders) in order to deliver quality homes at a lower market price to the community within the key commercial terms disclosed, with Stages 1B & 2 subject to Council's 2024-34 Long-term Plan decision-making process; and
2. **Delegates** authority to the Chief Executive to undertake the necessary legal agreements to finalise the sale and key commercial terms, as disclosed; and
3. **Approves** the preferred option for the 2024-34 Long-term Plan consultation as Option 1, for Council to proceed with its preferred development partner for Stage 1B, and Stage 2 of the EUL Housing Project and continue to develop the East Urban Lands in a financially prudent manner which does not put pressure on rates increases and limits pressure on Council's debt.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202404/12 above, with the exception of Cr Danny Loughlin who abstained from voting.

5 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 2.45pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council meeting held on 28 May 2024.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

Taupō District Council**Proposed Plan Change 'Bundle One'
incorporating:**

- **PLAN CHANGE 38: Strategic Objectives**
- **PLAN CHANGE 40: Taupō Town Centre**
- **PLAN CHANGE 41: Removal of Fault Lines**
- **PLAN CHANGE 42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments**
 - **PLAN CHANGE 43: Taupō Industrial Environments**

to the

Taupō District Council in relation to:

Recommendation of the Hearings Panel**Index Report****Introduction, Procedural Matters and Report Format**

30 April 2024

This report contains an explanation of how the recommendations have been presented in **Recommendation Reports 2 to 7**. It does not contain any recommendations per se.

The Hearings Panel for the purposes of hearing submissions and further submissions on all the Proposed Plan Changes comprised Commissioner David McMahon (Chair), Commissioners Elizabeth Burge, Councillor Yvonne Westerman and Councillor Kevin Taylor

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Index of Abbreviations

Throughout our Recommendation Reports, we have adopted several acronyms and abbreviations for the sake of brevity. The table below provides a list of these terms.

Abbreviation	Means
"the Act"	Resource Management Act 1991
"BoPRC"	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
"Bundle One"	Collective name of PC38-43
"The Council"	Taupō District Council
"Horizons"	Horizons Regional Council
"HBRC"	Hawkes Bay Regional Council
"HNZPT"	Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
"NBA"	Natural and Built Environment Act
"TDC"	Taupō District Council
"NPS"	National Planning Standards 2019
"ODP"	Operative Taupō District Plan
"PC38"	Proposed Plan Change 38: Strategic Direction
"PC39"	Proposed Plan Change 39: Residential Building Coverage
"PC40"	Proposed Plan Change 40: Taupō Town Centre
"PC41"	Proposed Plan Change 41: Removal of Fault Lines
"PC42"	Proposed Plan Change 42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments
"PC43"	Proposed Plan Change 43: Taupō Industrial Land
"TDP"	Operative Taupō District Plan (2007)
"the RMA"	Resource Management Act 1991
"the RPS"	The Regional Policy Statement part of the Horizon Regional Council's One Plan
"s[#]"	Section Number of the RMA, for example s32 means section 32
"s42A report"	The report prepared by TDC pursuant to s42A, RMA in relation to PC38
"WRC"	Waikato Regional Council

Index Report

Introduction, Procedural Matters and Report Format

1 Introduction

Report outline and approach

- 1.1 This Index Report has been prepared by the Hearings Panel appointed to hear and make recommendations with respect to submissions on Plan Change 'Bundle One' to the Operative Taupō District Plan (**TDP**), which consists of six separate Plan Changes, in relation to the following:
- Plan Change 39: Residential Building Coverage (**Report 1**)
 - Plan Change 38: Strategic Direction (**Report 2**)
 - Plan Change 40: Taupō Town Centre (**Report 3**)
 - Plan Change 41: Removal of Fault Lines (**Report 4**)
 - Plan Change 42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments (**Report 5**)
 - Plan Change 43: Taupō Industrial Land (**Report 6**)
- 1.2 The **Index Report** is a generic report that is common and relevant to five of the six individual Plan Change reports (**Reports 2-6**). It should be read in conjunction with each subsequent recommendation report. For completeness, it is noted that the Hearings Panel completed and released **Report 1** on Plan Change 39: Residential Building Coverage on 31 October 2023. At the Council meeting on 28 November 2023, elected members approved the notification of the decision on the plan change, as recommended by an independent hearing panel. The panel recommended the plan change be approved unchanged.
- 1.3 As Plan Change 39 was discrete in its changes, the Council decision was released before the other plan changes to allow the benefits to take effect as soon as possible. It is noted that the Council team is planning on looking at a full review of the residential chapter as one of the next steps in keeping the District Plan current. Further details can be obtained by emailing the Council at: districtplan@taupo.govt.nz
- 1.4 The remaining five plan changes are being released together in the first quarter of 2024 and this introductory generic index report is relevant to each of those five plan changes.
- 1.5 The report does not include any recommendations of the Panel. Rather it:
- a. records several background and procedural matters of relevance to our recommendations;
 - b. describes the statutory framework for our consideration of the Bundle One Plan Change provisions and matters raised in submissions¹ and our reporting thereon;
 - c. provides a guide to the format and approach adopted for each of the subsequent recommendation reports; and
 - d. records some general comments regarding Bundle One Plan Changes as a whole.

- 1.6 The material in this report is largely factual and provides context that each of the subsequent recommendation reports draw upon. Our aim in centralising these contextual matters within this introductory report is to avoid duplication of the same common material in the subsequent recommendation reports. To that same end, readers of the subsequent recommendation reports on each of the five plan changes should have regard to this report.
- 1.7 In some instances, there are cross references between **Reports 2-6**, which we will signal within the relevant reports and in these instances, those reports should also be read in conjunction with each other.

2 Procedural matters

Matters considered in this section

- 2.1 This section of the report addresses various matters of process and procedure leading up to the completion of the hearings. Specifically, the matters we address here are a description of:
- a. our role and the purpose of our reports;
 - b. the background to the Proposed Plan Changes 'Bundle One';
 - c. the hearing streams and the specific Plan Changes they addressed;
 - d. procedural matters arising during the course of the hearings.
- 2.2 Much of the information relating to submissions and further submissions is contained in the relevant s42A Reports prepared by Council officers. Accordingly, we only provide a brief summary here of the submission process and rely on the s42A Reports, where the details of individual submissions and further submissions are concerned.

The Panel's role and the purpose of reports

- 2.3 We were appointed as Hearings Panel members by Council on 27 April 2023.¹ Our delegation included all necessary powers under the RMA² to hear the submissions made on the 'Bundle One' Plan Changes² and to make recommendations to the Council on the provisions contained within each of the Plan Change on all matters raised in those submissions to each relevant Plan Change.³
- 2.4 The purpose of this report and the subsequent reports relating to each of the Plan Changes included in 'Bundle One' is to satisfy the Council's various decision-making obligations and associated reporting requirements under the RMA.

Background to 'Bundle One' Plan Changes

- 2.5 In accordance with Section 74 of the RMA, and the first part of Schedule 1, a Council is required to commence a review of each provision in its District Plan no later than 10 years after the provision was made operative. The Act allows Council to review the District Plan in full or in sections. The Council decided to undertake the review of the District Plan in sections (i.e. a sectional district plan review).
- 2.6 In 2018 the Council initiated a comprehensive District Plan review of the Taupō District Plan (**TDP**), that was made operative in 2007. The review initial commenced with a desktop review of the Natural Values sections of the plan, updating fault lines, initiating consultation on the rural chapter and commencing iwi engagement.³
- 2.7 However, in 2021, Council agreed to change the approach from a comprehensive review of the **TDP** to a more refined series of plan changes in the context of wider statutory reform and moving to a regional planning model under the Natural Built Environment Act (**NBA**). Council recommended that six plan changes were selected as part of the first "bundle" of revisions to Operative District Plan (**ODP**).

¹ Delegated authority under s34A of the RMA, Council resolution dated 27 April 2023

² PC38-43

³ Overarching Section S42A Report, page 3, dated June 2023

- 2.8 “Bundle One” included the following Plan Change topics:
- a. PC38: Strategic Directions
 - b. PC39: Residential Building Coverage
 - c. PC40: Taupō Town Centre Environment
 - d. PC41: Fault lines removal
 - e. PC42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments
 - f. PC43: Taupō Industrial Rezoning
- 2.9 Council commencement “Bundle One” of the above six plan changes in July 2021. Pre-consultation and key stakeholder engagement was undertaken in early 2022. All Bundle One Plan Changes were publicly notified on 14 October – 9 December 2022.
- 2.10 Although these Plan Changes were developed as a ‘bundle’ they have each been carried out separately in accordance with Section 74 of the RMA, and the first part of Schedule 1. As such, each of the Plan Changes has been heard separately.
- 2.11 A total of 476 submissions were received by the closing date of 13 June 2022. A summary of submissions was notified on 17 March 2023. The period for making further submissions closed on 7 April 2023.
- 2.12 **Table 1** below shows the breakdown of submissions and further submissions on each of the Plan Changes.

Plan Change	Number Submissions Received	of	Number of Further Submissions Received
PC38	38		17
PC39	19		0
PC40	17		1
PC41	11		4
PC42	97		27
PC43	19		6
Total	201		55

Table 1: Submissions and Further Submission numbers received on Bundle One Plan Changes.

Clause 16(2) Amendments

- 2.13 Several minor errors in Plan Change 38 (Strategic Directions) and Plan Change 40 (Taupō Town Centre) were picked up during the notification process. Council staff corrected these under staff delegation as allowed for by clause 16(2) of the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991) and were therefore not re-notified.
- 2.14 The corrections related to:
- a. Minor corrections to the Te Reo section within the Strategic Directions (PC38), this included corrections in capital letters, macrons and spelling.
 - b. Change in a layer on two maps within the Taupō Town Centre Plan Change (PC40). The wrong town centre environment base layer was used on this map.

¹ Unless stated otherwise the term “submissions” refers to both primary submissions and further submissions.

² Under s34A(1), RMA

³ Cl 10, Sch 1, RMA

The hearings

- 2.15 Hearings on submissions and further submissions for “Bundle One” Plan Changes were held between 17-August and 12 September 2023. The Hearings were conducted at the Suncourt Hotel and Conference Centre, Taupō. Online attendance was provided for those that could not attend in person and a livestream of the hearing was also provided.
- 2.16 Plan Change 39: Residential Building Coverage and Plan Change 41: Deletion of Fault Line were considered by the Panel, ‘on the papers’ with confirmation from the Council and submitters who were all happy to forgo the need to be heard in person and therefore no hearing was held for these two plan changes.
- 2.17 **Table 2** below provides a summary of the hearing, and the dates each was conducted in relation to each of the Plan Changes.

Hearing	Plan Change	Dates
1	PC 38: Strategic Direction	17- 18 August 2023
2	PC 42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments	21-25 August 2023
3	PC 40 & PC43	11-12 September 2023
4	PC39 and 41	N/A (refer paragraph 2.15)

Table 2: Summary of Hearings

- 2.18 As we set out in further detail below, individual recommendation reports have been prepared for each of the Plan Changes in relation to the hearings. The hearings were organised to facilitate an efficient hearing process, whereas our recommendation reports are focused squarely on topics. In Section 4 of this report, we provide an outline of each recommendation report by topic.
- 2.19 Each recommendation report contains an ‘Appendix 1’, which comprise schedules of attendances for the hearing on the respective topic. We refer to those parties throughout the recommendation reports where relevant. Evidence tabled during the course of the hearings is also referred to in the relevant recommendation report, where it is particularly germane to our subsequent recommendations. All hearings were recorded and can also be accessed via the relevant webpage.
- 2.20 As part of the management of the hearing process, the Panel has issued a series of procedural minutes, as set out in **Table 3**. Each minute served a different purpose, but in broad terms, they:
 - a. set out procedures to be followed by the parties in preparing their evidence and in readiness for their attendance at the hearings;
 - b. sought advice from various parties on legal and/or other substantive matters relevant to a given hearing topic;

- c. commissioned further assessment to assist our deliberations and reporting, and provided procedures for parties to receive and respond to those assessments;
- d. made provision for expert conferencing on various matters to narrow and articulate matters in contention, and to assist our deliberations and reporting; and
- e. resolved various administrative matters arising over the course of proceedings, including (for example) the granting of waivers and time extensions for receiving information.

Minute #	Summary	Relevant PC	Date
1	Draft hearing procedures, hearing procedures conference, hearing process and site visits	All	15 June 2023
2	Scheduling of evidence and hearing stream dates	All	4 July 2023
3	Extension of time for evidence for PC43	PC43	12 July 2023
4	Cancellation of hearings for PC 39 and 41. Notification that decision will be made 'on the papers'	PC39 and PC 41	20 July 2023
5	Hearing schedule and clarification on experience evidence requirements and expert planning evidence requirements.	PC 38, 40, 42 and 43	26 July 2023
6	Panel response to memorandum received by submitter and direction for Council to provide legal opinion, conferencing between submitter and Council and supplementary planning assessment.	PC42	27 July 2023
7	Summary of matters arisen during initial deliberations for PC39 and 41. Direction seeking a wiring diagram for PC39 and further questions and s32AA analysis requested for PC41.	PC39 and PC 41	1 August 2023
8	Notification of additional submission that was missed for PC43. Request for an extension of time for evidence or PC 38, 42 and 43 and updated hearing schedule for PC40 and 43.	PC 38, 40, 42 and 43	8 August 2023
9	Request of extension of time in relation to submitter for PC43 and direction for conferencing between submitters and Council.	PC43	13 August 2023
10	Administrative matter relating to Minute 6, setting out timeframe for supplementary planning assessment.	PC42	14 August 2023
11	Confirmation of receipt of joint legal statement in relation to PC43 and anticipation of supplementary planning statement in relation to PC42.	PC40, 42 and 43	16 August 2023

Minute #	Summary	Relevant PC	Date
12	Provide confirmation of verbal direction and subsequent agreement from 'Energy Section' participants to provide an agreed version of provisions, 32A analysis and wiring diagram for PC38.	PC38	19 August 2023
13	Provided 'state of play' for PC 39 and PC 41 deliberations and additional information requirement update and revised hearing schedule for PC 40 and 43	All	20 August 2023
14	Reiterated the outputs required in Minute 12 and provided revised dates for information deadlines in respect to PC38, 42 and 43	PC38, 42 and 43	22 August 2023
15	Direction for Submitter 21 to PC38, 42 and 43.	PC38, 42 and 43	22 August 2023
16	Provided an update on the response to Minute 7 for PC39 and procedural matters relating to PC38, PC40, PC41 and PC42.	All	28 August 2023
17	Panel response of Submitter 74 and Council's request for further evidence, along with dates for filing evidence in respect to PC 42	PC42	28 August 2023
18	Provided an update on the outputs required for PC 40 and PC43 and dates for delivery.	PC40 and PC43	18 September 2023
19	Provided a determination of further evidence in relation to Submitter 74 and provided an extension of time for the s42A Report requested by Council.	PC42	4 October 2023
20	Panel sought further clarification from Council reporting officer on PC38 deliberation matters.	PC38	5 October 2023
21	Response to a memorandum received from Taupo Industrial Estate Limited legal counsel.	PC43	9 October 2023
22	Response to a further memorandum received from Taupo Industrial Estate legal counsel	PC43	25 October 2023
23	Panel sought further s32 assessment from Council's reporting officer.	PC41	12 November 2023

Table 3: Summary of Minutes issued

3 Statutory Context

Matters considered under this section

- 3.1 Here we provide an outline of the relevant statutory considerations for our reporting.
- 3.2 The matters outlined below will not be repeated in subsequent reports, but nonetheless have been the reference point for each of our evaluations in the topic-based recommendation reports.

Summary of statutory requirements

- 3.3 The statutory requirements for the preparation and consideration of the contents of a District Plan are set out in ss 31, 32, and 72-77D of the RMA.
- 3.4 In *Colonial Vineyard Ltd v Marlborough District Council*,⁵ the Environment Court updated the framework of matters to be evaluated when preparing a plan, albeit by reference to the version of the RMA that applied prior to 3 December 2013. The RMA has been amended a number of times since that date, the most relevant for our purposes being the substantial rewriting of s32 and the introduction of s32AA and the National Planning Standards. Other minor amendments to words and phrases have also been made.
- 3.5 In these circumstances we prefer to set out the statutory requirements that we consider apply specifically to the preparation and consideration of Bundle One, drawing on *Colonial Vineyards*, where it is appropriate to do so, but supplementing as necessary where amendments have been made.

General requirements

- A. The District Plan (change) should be designed to accord with and assist Council to carry out its functions so as to achieve the purpose of the RMA (ss31, 72 and 74(1) RMA).
- B. When preparing its District Plan, an evaluation report in accordance with s32 RMA must be prepared (s74(1)(d) RMA) and be given particular regard to (s74(1)(e) RMA).
- C. The District Plan must be prepared in accordance with and give effect to national policy statements and the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (ss74(1)(ea) and 75(3) RMA).
- D. The District Plan must be prepared in accordance with the National Planning Standard (s74(1)(ea) RMA).
- E. The District Plan must give effect to any operative regional policy statement and not be inconsistent with a regional plan for any matter specified in s 30(1) RMA (ss 75(3)(c) and 75(4)(b) RMA).
- F. When preparing its District Plan the Council must also:
- have regard to any relevant management plans and strategies under other Acts, and to any relevant entry in the Historic Places Register and to various fisheries regulations (s74(2)(2)(b) RMA) to the extent that their content has a bearing on resource management issues of the district; and to consistency with plans and proposed plans of adjacent territorial authorities (s74(2)(c) RMA);

- take into account any relevant planning document recognised by an iwi authority (s 74(2A) RMA); and
 - not have regard to trade competition or the effects of trade competition (s74(3) RMA).
- G. A District Plan must state its objectives for the district, the policies to implement the objectives and the rules (if any) to implement the policies (s75(1) RMA) and may state other matters (s75(2) RMA).
- H. In making a rule for the purpose of carrying out its functions and achieving the objectives and policies of the District Plan, the Council must have regard to the actual or potential effect of activities on the environment, including, in particular, any adverse effect (s76(1) and (3) RMA).

Section 32 and 32AA evaluations

- A. The s32 evaluation report must contain a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects anticipated from the implementation of the Proposed District Plan (s32(1)(c) RMA).
- B. Each proposed objective in a District Plan (change) is to be evaluated by the extent to which it is the most appropriate way to achieve the purpose of the RMA (s 32(1)(a)) RMA) Act.
- C. The policies and other provisions are to be examined to ascertain whether they are the most appropriate to achieve the objectives by (s32(1)(b) and (2) RMA):⁶
- identifying other reasonably practicable options for achieving the objectives and assessing their efficiency and effectiveness in doing so; and
 - identifying and assessing, and if practicable, quantifying, the benefits and costs of the environmental, economic, social, and cultural effects that are anticipated from the implementation of the provisions; and
 - assessing the risk of acting or not acting if there is uncertain or insufficient information about the subject matter of the provisions.
- D. A further evaluation in accordance with s32 RMA of any changes proposed to be made to the objectives and other provisions of the District Plan since the first evaluation report was prepared must be prepared at a level of detail that corresponds to the scale and significance of the changes (s32AA(1) RMA).
- 3.6 We expand upon some aspects of these below.

Part 2 of the RMA

- 3.7 The Act's purpose and principles are set out in Part 2 of the Act. Section 5 explains that the Act's purpose is to promote the sustainable management of natural and physical resources. In that context sustainable management means:

... managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources in a way, or at a rate, which enables people and communities to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being and for their health and safety while—

- (a) sustaining the potential of natural and physical resources (excluding minerals) to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and*
 - (b) safeguarding the life-supporting capacity of air, water, soil, and ecosystems; and*
 - (c) avoiding, remedying, or mitigating any adverse effects of activities on the environment.*
- 3.8 In achieving the RMA's purpose, section 6 directs all persons exercising functions and powers under the Act to recognise and provide for matters of national importance, being:
- (a) the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
 - (b) the protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
 - (c) the protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna:*
 - (d) the maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes, and rivers:*
 - (e) the relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga:*
 - (f) the protection of historic heritage from inappropriate subdivision, use, and development:*
 - (g) the protection of protected customary rights:*
 - (h) the management of significant risks from natural hazards.*
- 3.9 Section 7 of the Act sets out matters that all persons must have particular regard to, and includes:
- (a) kaitiakitanga:*
 - (aa) the ethic of stewardship:*
 - (b) the efficient use and development of natural and physical resources:*
 - (ba) the efficiency of the end use of energy:*
 - (c) the maintenance and enhancement of amenity values:*
 - (d) intrinsic values of ecosystems:*
 - (e) [Repealed]*
 - (f) maintenance and enhancement of the quality of the environment:*

(g) any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources:

(h) the protection of the habitat of trout and salmon:

(i) the effects of climate change:

(j) the benefits to be derived from the use and development of renewable energy.

3.10 Section 8 of the RMA requires all persons exercising functions and powers under the Act to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Council's functions and purpose of the Proposed Plan Changes

3.11 The Council has extensive functions under s31 of the RMA for the purpose of giving effect to the Act's sustainable management purpose, as follows:

- a. The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies and methods to achieve integrated management of the effects of the use, development, or protection of land and associated natural and physical resources of the district (section 31(1)(a)).
- b. The establishment, implementation, and review of objectives, policies and methods to ensure that there is sufficient development capacity in respect of housing and business land to meet the expected demands of the district (section 31(1)(aa)).
- c. The control of any actual or potential effects of the use, development, or protection of land, including for the purpose of - (i) the avoidance or mitigation of natural hazards; and (iia) the prevention or mitigation of any adverse effects of the development, subdivision, or use of contaminated land; (iii) the maintenance of indigenous biodiversity; (d) the control of the emission of noise and mitigation of the effects of noise; (e) the control of any actual or potential effects of activities in relation to the surface of water in rivers and lakes; (f) any other functions specified in this Act (section 31(1)(b)).
- d. The methods used to carry out any functions under subsection (1) may include the control of subdivision (section 31(2)).

3.12 The purpose of Bundle One Plan Changes is to assist the Council to carry out the above functions in order to achieve the purposes of the Act.

National Policy Statements

3.13 When Bundle One Plan Changes were notified on 14 October 2022, the following National Policy Statements (NPSs) were in force:

- a. NPS on Urban Development Capacity 2016;
- b. NPS for Renewable Electricity Generation 2011;
- c. New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010;
- d. NPS on Electricity Transmission 2008; and
- e. NPS for Freshwater Management 2020;

f. NPS on Urban Development 2020

- 3.14 By virtue of s75(3) of the RMA the Bundle One Plan Changes were required to give effect to the provisions of these documents, where relevant.
- 3.15 In the period between the close of submissions and the commencement of hearings in 2023, three days after the Plan Changes were notified, a new NPS on Highly Productive Land (**NPS-HPL**) came into force on 17 October 2022.
- 3.16 Despite the addition of the **NPS-HPL** coming into effect three days after the notification of all Plan Changes, and the submissions thereon, obligation in s75(3) of the RMA remains relevant consideration to PC38 and PC42 in particular and therefore we discuss the extent of that obligation and how it has been fulfilled in relation to this NPS in Recommendation **Reports 2 and 5** for Strategic Directions and General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments where they have relevance.
- 3.17 National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) was gazetted on 7 July 2023 and came into force on 4 August 2023. All local authorities are required to give effect to it as soon as possible. Given that NPS-IB came into force prior to the hearing of PC42, it is a relevant matter for our decision-making.
- 3.18 Local authorities must identify and protect areas of high biodiversity values. WRC will undertake a regional mapping exercise in collaboration with territorial authorities, but in the interim publicly notify any changes to their policy statements and plans that are necessary to give effect to the NPS-IB within eight years after the commencement date, and for provisions for Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), within five years of the commencement date. Although the identification of SNAs is outside of the scope of PC42, it is a relevant consideration in relation to the Rural Environment subdivision and 'bonus lot' provisions where an SNA is being protected via a covenant as part of a subdivision process. Therefore, we consider there is limited relevance of the NPS-IB to PC42 decision-making.

The Regional Policy Statements

- 3.19 As with the NPSs, the Regional Policy Statements (**RPS**) must be given effect to by Bundle One Plan Changes. We acknowledge that there is a level of complexity in relation to the RPS given that there are four relevant RPS's in relation to the Plan Changes as follows:
 - Waikato Regional Policy Statement
 - Horizons Regional Policy Statement
 - Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement
 - Hawkes Bay Regional Policy Statement
- 3.20 **Table 4** below sets out the relevant RPS's and relevant Plan Changes and which Bundle One Plan Change they are relevant to.

RPS	Operative Date	Relevant Plan Changes to the RPS	Relevant to Bundle One Plan Changes
Waikato Regional Policy Statement	2016	Plan Change 1, notified October 2022	PC40 PC41 PC42 PC38

RPS	Operative Date	Relevant Plan Changes to the RPS	Relevant to Bundle One Plan Changes
Horizons Regional Policy Statement	2014	Plan Change 2, notified October 2019 Plan Change 1, notified 2016	PC42
Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement	2015	NA	PC42
Hawkes Bay Regional Resource Management Plan (includes the RPS)	2006	NA	PC42

Table 4: Relevant RPS's to Bundle One Plan Changes

3.21 Accordingly, we refer to specific provisions of each relevant operative RPS as relevant to each Plan Change in subsequent recommendation reports.

National Environmental Standards

3.22 There are nine National Environmental Standards (NESs) currently in force:

- a. NES for Storing Tyres Outdoors 2021;
- b. NES for Freshwater 2020;
- c. NES for Marine Aquaculture 2020;
- d. NES for Plantation Forestry 2017;
- e. NES for Telecommunication Facilities 2016;
- f. NES for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health 2011;
- g. NES for Electricity Transmission Activities 2009;
- h. NES for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007; and
- i. NES for Air Quality 2004.

3.23 Each of these documents provide for nationally consistent management of the respective topics to which the standards relate and include technical standards and other methods. These standards will usually override provisions in a district or regional plan; however, the Act enables provisions in a plan or a resource consent to prevail in relation to certain uses and where expressly enabled by a particular NES.

3.24 We address the substance of the NESs in the respective recommendation reports where relevant.

Other statutory considerations

- 3.25 The requirement under s74 of the RMA to give regard to matters when preparing a plan extends beyond those documents referred to above to include:
- a. national planning standards;
 - b. management plans and strategies prepared under other Acts;
 - c. relevant entries on the New Zealand Heritage List / Rārangī Kōrero;
 - d. the plans or proposed plans of adjacent territorial authorities; and
 - e. iwi management plans.
- 3.26 The Council has demonstrated its regard to these matters in preparing each of the Plan Changes and each report prepared by the Council under s42A of the RMA has specifically detailed relevant information relating to s74 matters, and the Panel has also had regard to the relevant matters to the extent relevant to our role.
- 3.27 The purpose of the first set of National Planning Standards that came into force in 2019 is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of New Zealand's planning system by providing a nationally consistent structure, format, definitions, noise and vibration metrics and electronic functionality and accessibility for district and other RMA plans.
- 3.28 Within the Taupō District there are the following iwi management plans:
- Central North Island Forests Iwi Collective (CNI) He Mahere Pūtahitanga (2018)
 - Te Arawa River Iwi Trust (TARIT) Environmental Management Plan (2021)
 - Ngāti Tūwharetoa Environmental Iwi Management Plan (EIMP) (2003)
 - Ngāti Tahu - Ngāti Whaoa Iwi Environmental Management Plan (IEMP): Rising above the mist - Te aranga ake i te taimahatanga (2019)
 - Raukawa Environmental Management Plan: Te Rautaki Taiao a Raukawa (2015)
- 3.29 The respective Section 32 and 42A reports for each of the six Plan Changes sets out the analysis of how each of the Iwi Management Plans have been taken into account.

Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021

- 3.30 The Government has recently amended the RMA to oblige councils to introduce medium density residential standards (MDRS) into their district plans, as a means to give effect to the NPS-UD.
- 3.31 As a 'Tier 3' local authority, the Taupō township is considered an 'urban environment'⁴ which is relevant to both PC40: Taupō Town Centre and PC43: Taupō Industrial Environments. NPS-UD has been addressed through each of the individual Section 32 and s42A reports for these particular plan changes and we make further comments on this in Recommendation Reports **2, 4 and 6**.

⁴ NPS-UD Section 1.4 Interpretation

4 Report format and approach

Guide to report format

- 4.1 As noted at the outset of this report, we have produced seven Recommendation Reportson Bundle One Plan Changes. **Table 5** below provides a full list of each Recommendation Report title and topic.

Hearing	Report #	Plan Change/Topic
N/A	1	PC39: Residential Building Coverage
1	2	PC38: Strategic Direction
3	3	PC40: Taupo Town Centre
2	4	PC42: General Rural and Rural Lifestyle Environments
N/A	5	PC41: Deletion of Fault Lines
3	6	PC43: Taupo Industrial Environments

Table 5: Recommendation Report Index

- 4.2 Each recommendation report is essentially self-contained; however, where there are matters that require integration across multiple topics/hearing streams, the relevant reports record this.
- 4.3 As noted in **Table 5** above Recommendation **Report 2** relates to the Strategic Direction associated with PC38. The Strategic Direction objectives and policies within PC38 in some instances has implications on the objectives and policies for other Plan Changes. This has involved evaluating them in a comprehensive manner, often referred to in planning jargon as taking both a 'top down' and 'bottom up' approach to their formulation. That is, we have endeavoured to ensure that the objectives and policies role in assisting the Council to address the key issues it has identified for the district so as to achieve the purpose of the RMA is clearly stated, while ensuring that all of the non-strategic objectives, policies and other provisions proposed by all of Bundle One Plan Changes align with these objectives. Our approach has been to ensure that all Bundle One Plan Changes are integrated with PC38.
- 4.4 For efficiency, we record that, except as otherwise identified in the respective decision reports and as noted in the recommended provisions for each plan change, we have accepted all recommendations set out by the reporting planners contained in the s42a reports. It should be noted that we have also generally adopted changes in recommendations following each hearing. These recommendations and the associated changes are outlined within each 42a Reply Statement.
- 4.5 The basis of these recommended decisions in terms of evaluation and findings can be found in our findings on the issues identified and evaluated in each report. Consequently, although every individual submission point is not specifically discussed in the issues evaluation section of each report the recommended decision on every such point can be found in the table in Appendix 2 of each recommendation report or where the panel decision varies from the reporting planners recommendation, then

this will be discussed within the decision.

- 4.6 The outcome of our recommendations are the annotated chapters of Bundle One showing the final amendments in 'track change' format to the provisions made since notification.⁸ The amended provisions are attached as 'Appendix 3' of our respective recommendation reports. Each report also contains an 'Appendix 4' which is a clean copy of the provisions as they appear following the amendments shown in Appendix 3 having been implemented.

Our overall approach in making recommendations

- 4.7 Section 32 of the RMA requires:
- a. the provisions to be examined as to whether they are the most appropriate way to achieve the objectives; and
 - b. as part of that examination, that:
 - c. reasonable alternatives within the scope afforded by submissions on the provisions and corresponding evidence are considered;
 - d. the efficiency and effectiveness of the provisions is assessed;
 - e. the reasons for our recommendations are summarised; and
 - f. our report contains a level of detail commensurate with the scale and significance of the changes recommended.
- 4.8 With respect to our role as a Panel, s32AA additionally requires that our evaluation to be focused on changes to the proposed provisions arising since the notification of Bundle One Plan Changes and the associated s32A reports.
- 4.9 The s42A Reports prepared by Council staff provide a comprehensive summary of submissions made on Bundle One in respect of each Plan Change and the issues they raised in respect of the provisions proposed. The s42A Reports summarise the submission points and assess them under a series of headings that (following some introductory comments and background material) correspond to the key issues raised in submissions associated with the relevant chapter (or mapping content) of the Plan Changes. To assist readers, we have structured our recommendation reports using that same format.
- 4.10 To avoid unnecessary repetition or duplication, we have adopted the approach of focusing our written analysis on those aspects of each s42A Report where:
- a. we disagreed with the reasoning and/or recommendations in the s42A Report;
 - b. material provided to us by submitters, either in the form of evidence or representations, called into question the reasoning/recommendations in the s42A Report; and/or
 - c. the Council Reporting Officer, having considered the evidence or representations of submitters, and following questioning from the Panel, altered their initial recommendations to us, as set out in their Reply Statements.

- 4.11 If we do not refer to an individual submission or group of submissions on a particular matter addressed during the relevant hearing, or discuss the reasons for our recommendations in relation to it, that is because, having reviewed the submissions alongside the written and oral evidence and representations from submitters, and the commentary, recommendations and reasoning in the relevant s42A Report and associated Reply Statements, we have accepted (and accordingly adopted) the s42A authors' final recommendations to us.
- 4.12 This means that our recommendation reports must be read in conjunction with each relevant s42A Report and Reply Statement. Those s42A Reports and Reply Statements are part of the public record and are available on the Council website.
- 4.13 Our recommendation reports, accordingly, take the form of an 'exceptions' report.
- 4.14 It follows also that where we accept the recommendation in a s42A Report or Reply Statement that provisions in the relevant Plan Change should be amended, we accept and adopt the evaluation contained in the s42A Report for the purposes of s32AA of the RMA, unless otherwise stated.
- 4.15 Where we do not accept the recommendations of the s42A Report and consider that a provision in the Plan Change should be changed, our recommendations have been specifically considered in terms of the obligation arising under s32AA of the RMA to undertake a further evaluation of the amended provision. Our evaluation for this purpose is not contained in a separate evaluation document or tabulated evaluation within our reports. Rather the evaluation required by s32AA is contained within the discussion and reasoning leading to our conclusions.
- Parties' assistance to Us**
- 4.16 We wish to acknowledge the efforts of all parties in assisting us in our role. Plan review processes are demanding for all parties involved and we are grateful for the professionalism, patience and helpfulness we have received.
- 4.17 The hearings were conducted professionally and as set out in our Hearings Procedures in **Minute 1 and 5**, in some instances where this was appropriate, we encouraged and facilitated further dialogue and narrowing of issues between the s42A authors and their expert colleagues, and planners and experts representing submitters. This was either in the form of facilitated expert conferencing or further clarification discussions convened by the s42A authors. In each case the outcomes of this further discussion and dialogue were recorded for to us to consider in either the relevant s42A Report or Reply Statement.
- 4.18 We also sought legal submissions from counsel representing various parties' regarding a number of matters and record our appreciation of that advice.

5 Scope of amendments to Bundle One Plan Changes

- 5.1 In some instances, we have recommended changes to the provisions for some of the Plan Changes that differ from the provisions that were notified. Our power to do so is expressly contemplated by clause 10(2)(b) of the First Schedule of the RMA which confirms that our recommendations on the provisions for each Plan Change of Bundle One and matters raised in submissions may include matters relating to any consequential alterations necessary to the proposed Plan Changes arising from submissions, as well as any other matter relevant to the proposed Plan Changes arising from submissions.
- 5.2 This does not limit our power to merely accepting or rejecting a submission, but to adapting the drafting of the plan changes to deal with the realities of multiple and often conflicting and cross-cutting submissions across all or some of the Plan Changes, including submissions prepared without professional help.⁵
- 5.3 Our ability to recommend amendments to the Plan Changes is not unlimited, however, as any amendment must be within scope, or otherwise permissible. In this regard, it is well established that a substantive modification to a proposed plan must be raised by and within the ambit of what was reasonably and fairly raised in submissions.⁶
- 5.4 Any recommended amendment “will usually be a question of degree to be judged by the terms of the proposed plan change and the content of the submissions”.⁷
- 5.5 The limitations on the scope to modify a plan change after it has been notified are also designed to ensure that, procedurally, there is an opportunity for the matter to be addressed in a further s32 evaluation, and that there has been an opportunity for those potentially affected by the change to participate.⁸
- 5.6 The clarity of the summary of submissions required by cl 7 of the First Schedule plays an important role in this regard. We have kept these principles in mind when considering recommending any changes.
- 5.7 If recommended changes are not able to be identified as a specific form of relief in a submission it is because we have been satisfied that, when read as whole, the submission effectively raised the issue in substance,⁹ the proposed amendment to the respective plan change in response did not go beyond what was fairly and reasonably raised in the submissions,¹⁰ and no person would be prejudiced (in a procedural sense) by the amendment proposed.

⁵ Environmental Defence Society v Otorohanga District Council [2014] NZEnvC 070, affirming Countdown Properties (Northlands) Limited v Dunedin City Council (1993) 2 NZRMA 497

⁶ Vernon v Thames-Coromandel District Council [2017] NZEnvC 2, at [11], summarising Environmental Defence Society v Otorohanga District Council [2014] NZEnvC 070

⁷ Vernon v Thames-Coromandel District Council, at [11], summarising Environmental Defence Society v Otorohanga District Council and citing Countdown Properties (Northlands) Ltd v Dunedin City Council (1994) 1B ELRNZ 150; [1994] NZRMA 145 (HC), at pages 171-172 and 166. This has been adopted in a number of cases including by the High Court in Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society Inc v Southland District Council [1997] NZRMA 408 (HC) and General Distributors Ltd v Waipa District Council (2008) 15 ELRNZ 59 (HC)

⁸ Vernon v Thames-Coromandel District Council, at [11], summarising Environmental Defence Society v Otorohanga District Council, citing Clearwater Resort Ltd v Christchurch City Council HC Christchurch AP34/02, 14 March 2003

⁹ See Johnston v Bay of Plenty RC EnvC A106/03

¹⁰ For example Atkinson v Wellington RC EnvC W013/99

6. General observations and comments by the Panel

Overview

- 6.1 In this final section of this report, we wish to record some of our general observations about the first “bundle” of revisions to Operative District Plan (ODP), and some common themes about the ODP as a whole. It is not to be critical of the process or any individuals involved in the preparation or evolution of the Plan changes. Indeed, we are aware from our collective experience that even the clearest RMA plans in New Zealand are not without complexity and all RMA plans have imperfections to one degree or another.
- 6.2 That said, we have found that there are aspects of the process associated with the first “bundle” of Plan Changes that are worth capturing in the formal hearing record. Where relevant, we address these matters in individual recommendation reports.

Concluding comments and observations of the Panel

- 6.3 The release of these decision reports marks a long and comprehensive process by several entities, which the Panel wish to acknowledge.
- 6.4 This process had its inception in 2007 when the Taupō District Plan was made operative and included the following key decision points:
- a. Between 2007 and 2018 there were several significant rounds of plan changes, primarily to bring the Taupō District Plan (**TDP**) in line with the TDC’s growth planning and also to address RMA Part 2 matters such as Natural Values.
 - b. Having reached its 10 year milestone, in 2018 the Council conducted a comprehensive review of the Plan – but with one eye on the RMA reform that was gaining momentum at the time. However, in 2021, Council decided to change the approach from a comprehensive review of the TDP to a more refined series of plan changes in the context of wider statutory reform and moving to a regional planning model under the (then proposed) Natural Built Environment Act (**NBA**).
 - c. Choices for what the initial review would focus on were driven by the work already done and the key issues identified by the community. Council recommended that the six plan changes subject to this current process be selected as part of the first “bundle” of revisions to Operative District Plan (**ODP**).
- 6.5 The Panel also acknowledge that engagement on the Plan Review/Plan Changes has been extensive and ongoing. We note and have viewed the full history of the engagement with all key stakeholders which is well documented in the background and engagement reports which formed part of the section 32 evaluation for each of the plan changes.
- 6.6 We were interested and encouraged to hear that at the very start of the process Council established a register for those interested in the District Plan, which was drawn on in process up to and including notification. We understood that this captured a significant ‘representative percentage’ of those interested in the District Plan. We also took comfort that there was regular engagement with iwi partners including several iwi authorities within District. This included:
- a. Te Kotahitanga Ngāti Tūwharetoa
 - b. Tūwharetoa Maori Trust Board
 - c. Ngāti Tūrangitukua

- d. Te Arawa River Iwi Trust
 - e. Ngati Tahu/Ngati Whaoa
 - f. Raukawa
- 6.7 We commend the Council on that process which included an 'open door' policy and reached out to numerous key groups and stakeholders through open days, sector meetings, working groups and many individual meetings or phone calls.
- 6.8 The end result of this first tranche of the sectional review is a TDP, for the topics it includes (particularly the rural resource), that is more representative and reflective of the current national and regional policy framework and more recent challenges facing the district since the last version of the TD2050 Growth Management Strategy, which was last updated in 2018. In this respect, the TDC has, in the Panel's view, achieved some valuable 'runs of the board' that many other Councils who pushed pause on Plan reviews in light of the previous (and now abandoned) NBA reform have not been able to achieve. This is a commendable achievement.
- 6.9 Looking forward, maintaining momentum of the review of the ODP will be important as a number of submitters have requested changes in Bundle 1 that are more appropriately addressed through comprehensive plan changes in successive bundles. For the record, we note that Council officers have advised that further Plan Changes are anticipated to be developed as part of Bundle 2 or potentially additional bundles if necessary.
- 6.10 We were encouraged to hear that looking beyond this first bundle of plan changes, and in parallel with work on the National Planning Standards Framework, the Council has begun background work to review the Residential Chapter, the creation of a Māori Purpose Zone and an update of Designations. Whilst these are likely to be the priority for Council to lead and implement through the Plan Change process, we also heard that there are a number of other areas where sectors are pushing for development of specific chapters. These include:
- a. An Energy Chapter
 - b. Quarry zone
 - c. Hospital zone
- 6.11 We also heard that it is likely that the Council will lean hard on the sectors for development of these chapters given limited resourcing funding, and as we recorded in Report 2 on PC38 representatives of the energy and quarrying sectors indicated strong support for that approach. In particular, the energy sector were of the view that the provisions introduced by PC38 and PC42 regarding Strategic Objectives and the Rural Production Zone respectively represented, in their view, an interim approach and a precursor to a fully developed energy chapter containing bespoke objectives, policies and rules to enable and manage that topic. We endorse that view and while it is expected that the Council would lead the process we definitely heard that the Energy sector would assist.
- 6.12 Officers also explained that there are projects underway for spatial planning exercises, including at Turangi and also the Rangatira E and Paenoa Te Akau Trust blocks. As set out in Report 5 (PC42) it is anticipated that Council plan changes would follow to implement this work. In particular, given the diverse views we heard and have recorded in Report 5 regarding the Rangatira E and Paenoa Te Akau Trust blocks, we encourage a structure plan process alongside associated iwi and stakeholder engagement, prior to any Plan Change being advanced for those areas.

- 6.13 Our two final comments concern PC38 and PC41.
- 6.14 In Report 2 (PC38) we have recommended removing the reference to the TD2050 2018 in the objectives within *Strategic Direction 3: Urban Form and Development*. We adopted that approach because TD2050 – which is the Council’s Growth Management Strategy - was last updated in 2018 and needs another review. Our recommendation avoids codifying elements of TD2050 into the District Plan that are already outdated. We also found that the risk of acting (referencing TD2050 in the District Plan) outweighs the risks of not acting (not referencing the TD2050) and will assist in ensuring that there is consistency between the objectives and policies pertaining to urban form and management.
- 6.15 We are aware that TD2050 2018 will be reviewed over the life of the TDP and in fact Ms Samuel indicated that a ‘refresh’ of that document is imminent. To this end, we endorse that review and encourage the Council to consider how any new direction in the growth strategy may need to be reflected in changes to the TDP.
- 6.16 In Report 4 (PC41) dealing with the removal of mapped fault lines and associated rules in the TDP, we decided after careful consideration and comprehensive input from the Councils’ reporting officers, that on balance the retention of the existing fault line provisions was too problematic and the mapped fault lines and associated rules in the District Plan should be deleted. We also determined that the replacement to the fault lines provisions with more recent information commissioned by TDC was not able to proceed at this stage which was not within our remit to recommend.
- 6.17 The outcome is largely a reliance on the building consent process to address this hazard matter as opposed to land use provisions in the TDP. We consider that leaves a moderate risk over the short to medium in terms of allowing land use activity to establish under the TDP which is potentially affected by a fault hazard. Accordingly, we endeavoured to ascertain what the Council’s appetite and/or plans for progressing a medium to long term solution under the TDP in light of the content of the draft NPS Natural Hazards which promotes a precautionary approach toward hazard planning. The advice we received was that TDC do recognise the need to initiate a First Schedule process that would likely involve adding the most up-to-date fault data into the Plan along with a relevant policy/rule framework.
- 6.18 On the above basis, whilst we have recommended approval of PC41 as notified (resulting in the existing outdated mapped fault lines and associated rules in the TDP be deleted), our decision comes with a strong recommendation to Council, that a priority for ‘Bundle 2’ changes should include a full provision and mapping update in relation to Natural Hazards. That recommendation is aligned with the emerging Natural Hazard NPS and GNS’s recommendation to replace any active fault datasets currently held and being used by Taupō District Council with those identified in their 2020 study and/or subsequent updated fault line mapping.

Adopted:	XXXXXX
Next review date:	2027/ 28 (to align with the development of the 2027 -37 Long-term Plan) or unless otherwise agreed by Council.
Document number:	XXXXXX
Sponsor/Group:	Strategy and Environment



COMMUNITY FUNDING POLICY 2024

PURPOSE

1. Taupō District Council (the Council) has a vision to be **“a district of connected communities who thrive and embrace opportunities”** and have set community outcomes to improve the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of our community.
2. Providing funds to community groups or organisations and individuals active in the district supports our vision and outcomes, and helps our communities meet their aspirations.
3. Council recognises the important role community groups or organisations and individuals play in helping to promote the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of Taupō District residents and provides funding to support their activities.
4. Community funds are aimed at further developing strategic relationships, helping to build upon and support community-led initiatives, creating positive change in the community and developing community capability and capacity.
5. This Community Funding Policy (the policy) affirms Taupō District Council's commitment to the disbursement of funds as a local public service.
6. The policy sets out:
 - a) the principles underpinning the community funding programme.
 - b) the support provided to community groups or organisations, strategic partners, and individuals through the community funding programme.
 - c) the process Council will follow:
 - when distributing funding to ensure the allocation and distribution of funding occurs in a transparent, fair, equitable, efficient, and consistent manner.
 - when receiving, processing and vetting funding applications

SCOPE

7. This policy applies to community funding provided by Taupō District Council through the following funds (*definitions below*):
 - a) Community Grant Fund
 - b) Accelerator Fund
 - c) Strategic Partnership Fund

DEFINITIONS

8. For the purpose of this policy, the following terms and definitions apply:

Accelerator Fund	<p>A contestable, multi-year fund that can be accessed by eligible organisations to support community aspirations and contribute to community wellbeing.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by a Committee or Panel who have been delegated authority to disburse community funds on behalf of Council.</p> <p>Agreements under this fund are for three years and the organisation cannot reapply under this fund.</p>
Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework	<p>A document accompanying this policy that sets out Council’s priorities when determining the eligibility of funding applications and the assessment framework to use to grant applications and disburse funds to prospective applicants.</p>
Community grant fund	<p>A contestable fund that can be accessed by an individual or community group. Funding is provided for community events, projects, and initiatives that benefit the community.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by Committees of Council under three main areas of the district, namely Taupō township and East Rural areas, Mangakino Pouakani, and Tūrangi Tongariro.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated once per year.</p>
Community groups or organisations	<p>A not-for-profit, charitable organisation that is established with the primary purpose of providing a benefit to communities in the Taupō district. For the purposes of the community funding programme, local schools meet this definition.</p>
Strategic Partnership Fund	<p>A contestable, multi-year fund accessed by community groups or organisations who deliver a service that supports Council to achieve core strategic outcomes.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by a Committee or Panel who have been delegated to disburse community funds on behalf of Council.</p> <p>Agreements under this fund are for three years and eligible for renewal following the long-term planning process.</p>

REVOCATIONS

- 9. The Grants and Partnership Policy 2021 is revoked when this policy comes into force on **DATE**.

DELEGATIONS

- 10. The implementation of this policy is delegated to the chief executive and their sub-delegates.

PRINCIPLES

- 11. The following principles underpin the design, implementation, and disbursement of community funds and Council’s decision-making process.

Transparency – Council will operate in a transparent manner when distributing community funding. This includes raising awareness and promoting funding opportunities, provide clear

information on what funding is for and how it can be accessed, and the process to assess funding applications.

Fair and Equitable – Council will disburse funds towards events, activities or projects that contribute the most to our vision and community outcomes.

Efficient and Consistent – Council will ensure that administrative and operational processes are cost-effective, and adequate resources are provided to support the policy framework and funding processes.

FUNDING DETERMINATION

12. Council will set the overall budget allocated to the community funding programme through the Long-term Plan (LTP) and following consultation with the community.
13. Council will determine the share of the overall budget to be allocated to each of the three funds (Community Grant Fund, Accelerator Fund, Strategic Partnership Fund), and the maximum funds that can be granted to a community group, organisation or individual.
14. Council will determine the share of the Community Grant Fund allocated to each of the three geographic areas Taupō township and east rural areas, Mangakino Pouakani, and Tūrangi Tongariro.
15. Disbursement of funds to individuals or community groups or organisations is directed by the Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework (*see definitions*).
16. Council will prepare an annual report, by no later than 30 September of the following financial year, accounting for the distribution and utilisation of funds disbursed through the community grants programme.
17. Council will audit the community grants programme, as necessary.

FUNDING PROCESS

18. Funding will be assessed by standing Council committees or panels who have been delegated authority to allocate funds on behalf of Council and decided by Council resolution.
19. Should any committee or panel cease to exist, and the decision-making on the disbursement of funds will revert to Council.
20. Council will assess all funding applications against eligibility criteria and the assessment framework set out in the Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework:
 - The eligibility criteria establish whether a prospective applicant qualifies to apply for funds through the community funding programme.
 - The assessment framework guides decision making on which eligible applicants are prioritised to receive funds under the community funding programme.
21. Council will only accept applications for funding submitted through its website.
22. Council will not accept late applications.

23. Council will approve one grant per year to the same community group or individual across the funds included in this policy.
24. Council will direct any requests for funding made through the LTP and/or Annual Plan to the community funding programme.
25. All funding decisions will be made publicly available.
26. Successful applicants will be required to enter into an agreement with Council setting out the terms that the applicants will need to comply with including the use of funds and reporting requirements.
27. Failure to comply with the terms of the agreement may result in funding being discontinued and all granted funds are to be returned to Council.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

28. Implementation of this policy will be monitored by a General Manager appointed by the Chief Executive.
29. This policy will be reviewed every six years or as deemed appropriate by Council.

DRAFT

Adopted:	XXXXX
Next review date:	2027/28 (to align with the development of the 2027-37 Long-term Plan) or unless otherwise agreed by Council.
Document number:	XXXXX
Sponsor/Group:	Strategy and Environment



COMMUNITY FUNDING ELIGIBILITY AND ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK 2024

PURPOSE

This document accompanies the Community Funding Policy 2024. The purpose of this document is to:

1. Set out Council's priorities when assessing the eligibility of funding applications and when disbursing funds under the community funding programme.
2. Provide applicants with clear and consistent eligibility criteria when applying for funds through the community funding programme.
3. Provide the assessment framework decision-makers will use when vetting applications and disbursing funds to funding applicants.

REVOCATIONS

4. The Taupō District Council Community Grants Eligibility and Criteria (2021) is revoked when this document comes into force on **DATE 2024**.

SCOPE

5. The Community Funding Eligibility and Assessment Framework set out in this document applies to community funding provided by Taupō District Council through the following (*definitions below*):
 - a) Community Grant Fund
 - b) Accelerator Fund
 - c) Strategic Partnership Fund

DEFINITIONS

6. For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply:

Accelerator Fund	<p>A contestable, multi-year fund that can be accessed by eligible organisations to support community aspirations and contribute to community wellbeing.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by a Committee or Panel who have been delegated authority to disburse community funds on behalf of Council.</p>
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	<p>Agreements under this fund are for three years and the organisation cannot reapply under this fund.</p>
Community grant fund	<p>A contestable fund that can be accessed by an individual or community group or organisation. Funding is provided for community events, projects and initiatives that benefit the community.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by Committees of Council under three main areas of the district, namely Taupō township and East Rural areas, Mangakino Pouakani, and Tūrangi Tongariro.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated once per year.</p>
Community groups or organisations	<p>A not-for-profit, charitable organisation that is established with the primary purpose of providing a benefit to communities in the Taupō district. For the purposes of the community funding programme, local schools meet this definition.</p>
Strategic Partnership Fund	<p>A contestable, multi-year fund accessed by community groups or organisations who deliver a service that supports Council to achieve core strategic outcomes.</p> <p>Funding for these grants is allocated by a Committee or Panel who have been delegated to disburse community funds on behalf of Council.</p> <p>Agreements under this fund are for three years and eligible for renewal following the long-term planning process.</p>

FUNDING PRIORITIES

7. Council's vision for the Taupō District is to be ***“a district of connected communities who thrive and embrace opportunities”***.
8. This vision is accompanied by five community outcomes aimed at improving the social, economic, cultural, and environmental wellbeing of our community.
9. Council will prioritise funding towards projects, events or initiatives that contribute towards one or more of these community outcomes.
10. The funding allocated towards the community funding programme is set through the long-term planning process and approved by Council.
11. A prospective funding applicant needs to demonstrate how the project, event or initiative meets one or more of the Community Outcomes as set out in the following table.

COMMUNITY OUTCOME	GUIDANCE
Tangata whenua are acknowledged and respected	We want to fund initiatives, projects or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meet the needs and aspirations of hapū and iwi - Promote the cultural heritage of Māori - Celebrate Māori identity - Improve knowledge of tikanga and te reo
Vibrant places and connected communities	We want to fund initiatives, projects or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Celebrate our people, history or culture - Support arts, culture, Ngā toi and sporting activities - Connect people for shared experiences
Resilient communities working in partnership	We want to fund initiatives, projects or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve the ability of whanau and communities to meet their needs - Establish safe places that offer support to vulnerable people in our community - Promote collaboration within the community and foster a spirit of working together - Enhance social and economic resiliency in our communities
Innovative, thriving economy	We want to fund initiatives, projects or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhance the image of our district - Support vibrancy and attractiveness of our public places
Flourishing environment	We want to fund initiatives, projects or activities that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve the state of our natural environment and conservation efforts - Promote sustainable outcomes - Champion activities that emphasize the principles of reuse, reduction, or recycling of waste

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

Eligibility Criteria

12. These criteria determine whether an individual, group or organisation is eligible **to apply** for funding under the community funding programme.
13. These criteria vary depending on the type of fund that the applicant is requesting funding from:
 - **Strategic Partnership Fund:** the applicant must be a not-for-profit, charitable organisation who will use the funds to benefit the local community (irrespective of where the organisation is based). An applicant who has previously received funding from Council must have fulfilled all its obligations and requirement under the previous funding agreement.
 - **Accelerator Fund:** the applicant must be a not-for-profit, charitable organisation who will use the funds to benefit the local community (irrespective of where the organisation is based). An applicant who has previously received funding from Council must have fulfilled all its obligations and requirement under the previous funding agreement.
 - **Community Grant Funds:** the applicant must be a not-for-profit, charitable organisation or an individual who will use the funds to benefit the local community (irrespective of where

the organisation or individual is based or resides). The applicant must also use the funds contribute to one or more of our community outcomes. An applicant who has previously received funding from Council must have fulfilled all its obligations and requirement under the previous funding agreement.

14. Eligibility is not a guarantee that the applicant will be granted funding. This is determined through the Assessment Framework (see below).

Assessment Framework

15. Council will assess whether a prospective applicant is granted funds by applying a scoring scale based on how well the applicant meets the assessment criteria set out below.
16. Council officers will make a recommendation to standing Committees or Panels.
17. The scoring scale ranges from 1 – 5 with 5 being the highest score and funding will be disbursed to prospective applicants starting from the highest score to the lowest score, until funds are fully allocated.
18. Council will determine eligibility of applications and assess applications against the following criteria:
 - **Project Purpose:** Has the applicant clearly defined the purpose and expected community outcomes of the project, activity or service? What is the need that is being met and why is this important?
 - **Capacity and Experience:** Does the applicant have the capability, capacity and experience to deliver the project, activity or service to an appropriate standard? Is this evidenced by a relevant track record of successful delivery?
 - **Evidence-Based Budget:** Does the application present a realistic, evidence-based budget for the project, activity or service? Does this budget include all elements of the project? Has the applicant identified how the grant will be spent?
 - **Success Evaluation:** Has the applicant identified how the success of the project, activity, or service will be evaluated? For example, will any information be collected on the number of people benefitting from the initiative?
 - **Project Benefit:** Has the applicant identified who the project, activity or service will benefit and where in the Taupō District, these people reside?
 - **Community Support:** Has the applicant provided evidence of community support, collaboration or involvement in the project, activity, or service e.g., volunteer hours or donated goods/services? Has the applicant provided evidence of support from the recognised regional or national body (where relevant)?



TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL

PERFORMANCE REPORT

APRIL 2024

April 2024

JULIE GARDYNE

TUMU WHAKARAE | **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

April once again focused on the Long-term Plan 2024/34. Following months of workshops and meetings, by the end of April we were at the point of approval of the consultation document and supporting information to start the audit review process. This Long-term Plan process has been challenging as a result of changes in Government policy associated with three waters, and a tough economic environment. I am proud of the hard work of the team to get

to this point in the Long-term Plan process. Thank you to councillors, for the large amount of time that you have put into the process, making very difficult decisions balancing the needs and desires of our community. Subject to any changes from the audit review, the Council team are now preparing for consultation with our community during June and July.



April was also a month of Supercars, and what a wonderful event for not only the Taupō District, but the wider region. It was great to see the various activities around town as we built up to the ITM Taupō Super400. A highlight was the track to town event which saw so many excited fans, visitors and community members lining the streets to welcome the Supercars drivers. It really brought the town to life at the start of this epic three-day event and gave such a wonderful Taupō welcome to the Supercars team. Event preparation involved many of the council teams (not only our amazing events team, but support from parks, regulation, infrastructure, communications and many more). Everyone involved should be very proud of what was achieved on the build-up to the event as well as during the weekend. We can now take the time to reflect and prepare for next year's even bigger event.

Another day dear to the heart of many in April was ANZAC Day. With ceremonies taking place throughout the district, it was a time for many of us to come together and remember those who came before us. It was also a time to acknowledge the realities of the wars currently happening around the world, where countless lives are being affected by violence, displacement, and loss. A real reminder of the ongoing need for peace, empathy, and cooperation.

Ngā mihi

Julie



April 2024

SARAH MATTHEWS

KAIWHAKAHAERE MATUA - WHAKATUTUKI
WHAKAHAERE

ORGANISATION PERFORMANCE GENERAL MANAGER



What were your group highlights of the month?

The Property and Development Team is progressing with Council's land development, following Council decisions made during the month, including, declaration of surplus land at 30 Mahoe Street and 204 Crown Road, and agreement to progress sale of Council's East Urban Lands (EUL) stage 1a with Council's preferred development partner (a consortium incorporating Penny Homes Limited, Classic Builders, and Tūwharetoa Settlement Trust). The Fleet Policy review has been completed and almost ready for internal consultation.

The Business Excellence Team has completed the quarterly review of Council's non-financial performance measures as committed to in its 2021-31 Long-term Plan (LTP). The review will be presented to TDC's Risk and Assurance Committee in July.

The Finance Team has been busy with testing for new rates and asset systems. The team have also been busy completing required work for the LTP audit.

The Digital Solutions team have been busy with procurement for the new Council administration building digital fit-out, leading implementation of new systems, and collaborating with other Councils around cyber security preparedness and response.

What were your group challenges of the month?

The Property and Development Team have been working hard reviewing and updating our internal systems as a team, with a view to drive improvements.

The Finance Team is currently testing the fixed asset system, which is behind where we originally scheduled to 'go live' as data transfer and implementation had challenges. There is a large backlog of capitalisation of assets for the year, which needs to be completed for Annual Report Audit. This large asset workload also clashes with LTP, and other year-end processes.

What is coming up in the next quarter for your team?

The Legal and Governance Team are monitoring advancement of Central Government Legislation which will have an impact on Local Government, including the proposed Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill, due to be passed by the end of July, with subsequent Council decisions pending.

The Property and Development Team will continue to progress procurement process for the EUL civil works to stage 1a & 1b (with 1b being subject to the 24-34 LTP consultation

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process). The sale of 30 Mahoe Street is expected to be progressed and earthworks on 204 Crown Road is scheduled to start early June.

The Business Excellence Team will continue to roll out training on new procurement policy and procedures. Renewal of Council's supplier panels will be completed with the aim to have Requests for Proposals out to the market in May.

The Finance Team will complete any post-audit changes to the LTP, progress year end tasks, implementation of new systems, undertake interim Annual Report audit, and complete asset capitalisation back log.

The Digital Solutions team will have the pilot group underway and progression opportunities of Artificial Intelligence (using CoPilot) for Council business, 'go live' of CiAnywhere Assets, Property, Rates & Cash receipting systems will be completed.

April 2024

LIBBY O'BRIEN

KAIWHAKAHAERE MATUA –
HONONGA TĀNGATA, HAPORI
**GENERAL MANAGER - PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIPS**



What were your group highlights of the month?

Supercars was a major highlight this month for many of the council teams, with a lot of work going into anticipating what information might be needed from visitors and our community. Over the four days of Supercars events the reaction was overwhelmingly positive and the photographs, videos and event details on our Taupō District Council Facebook page attracted record engagement.

Our Community Development team held three successful 'Gaining Clarity: Strategic Planning 101' workshops with community groups in Tūrangi, Mangakino and Taupō, supporting groups to think differently about a strategic approach to their mahi. We received positive feedback from attendees on the relevance and value to community organisations and these ongoing partnerships will take some of the reliance off Council as a funder into the future. Conversations have also continued with independent distributors and partnership agreement recipients about the future of community funding at council. The focus was around reinforcing key messaging and that communities will have opportunity to provide feedback in June through Long-term Plan engagement.

We hosted a South Korean delegation of emergency management professionals, providing a good opportunity to share what we do and also gain some insights around how emergency management is delivered internationally.

Our People and Culture team have remained busy on the recruitment front, with highlights being support for Destination Great Lake Taupō to find their new general manager and seeing our Parks and Reserves and Digital Solutions teams become fully staffed. We are also seeing a lot of internal movement of our people, and it is pleasing to see staff remaining within the organisation but growing into new roles.

Finally, a group of staff helped build their understanding of Te Ao Māori at Ohaaki Marae, sharing insights and learnings as we continue our partnership approach with iwi and hapū. We are also continuing to have positive operational working relationships with Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board on three waters-related mahi and sharing information about the proposed Long-term Plan.

What were your group challenges of the month?

Work to prepare for the upcoming Long-term Plan consultation has continued at pace, with a few competing pressures across our community-facing teams.

Community grants applications closed and allocation meetings started over the month of April. In this latest funding round, we received 131 applications, requesting over \$670,000

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compared to just over \$100,000 available to allocate. This is a significant increase in demand on previous rounds, demonstrating the increasing demand and reliance on Council funding.

We are starting to think ahead to the end of the financial year and as such are busy getting prepared for performance reviews. We have faced some unexpected challenges in the technology we use for payroll and recruitment and have been readying ourselves for new modules in how we store and access files. While this work will help our security as an organisation going forward, it is additional work at a busy time.

Managing iwi and hapū relationships in our housing development space will be a focus for our Iwi and Co-governance team going forward. Work will also continue to support hapū aspirations around the protection of the C75 Trust whenua.

What is coming up in the next quarter for your team?

Our teams' focus will be almost completely dedicated to the Long-term Plan consultation with work leading up to June including preparation of supporting materials such as website pages, FAQs, key messages, storyboards and support for community engagement sessions. Iwi engagement hui beginning ahead of the formal consultation period, and will continue through June to ensure whānau, hapū and iwi all feel they can have their say on the draft LTP.

Following the LTP engagement work, another campaign that will require significant time and effort will be around letting ratepayers know that their 2024/25 rates will be charged in three instalments instead of the usual four. This is expected to begin in late July or early August.

We are also expecting increased foot traffic through our Long-term Plan consultation period in June and customer-facing teams are preparing to support and guide our customers through this time.

Internally, our People and Culture team are preparing for our year-end processes around performance and pay and changes to our enterprise management system.

April 2024

WARRICK ZANDER

KAIWHAKAHAERE MATUA - RAUTAKI, TAIAO
**STRATEGY AND ENVIRONMENT
GENERAL MANAGER**



What were your group highlights of the month?

Council signed up to the Waikato Regional Council Biodiversity Accord. The accord is intended to pull together different stakeholders from across the region to work together on developing a regional biodiversity strategy. While this signals council's intent to work with others on this important issue, the lead role continues to sit with the regional council. Being involved will enable the council to influence the direction of the strategy and reflect the unique circumstances of our district.

Te Kapua Papa Tākaro (Tūrangi playground) has been named as a finalist for the Recreation Aotearoa's Green Pavlova 2024 Parks Awards in the "Playspace of the Year (>\$500K)" category. The awards ceremony will be held on 31 May in Ōtautahi/Christchurch. This follows on from the news that the playground is also up for recognition at the upcoming Landscape Architect (NZILA) awards on 17 May.

I was fortunate enough to attend the planning session with the parks and reserves team where the work pressures the Supercars event would place on the council teams became evident. Despite this, everyone was keen to support, and the event was a great success. Some of the behind-the-scenes work from the environmental team included monitoring 34 food and alcohol businesses, with some excellent feedback, and a couple of executive team and elected members helping the parks team to clear the war memorial area of weeds, rubbish and leaves.

Council considered a suite of draft policies and supporting information for the draft Long-term Plan and approved them to go to Audit New Zealand over May. The policy team also prepared and adopted a submission on Waikato Regional Council's draft Long-term Plan. The consultations on animal control, dog registration and food licensing fees, and solid waste bylaw have closed, with the council hearing and deliberations taking place at the end of May.

Building consent processing timeframes are back to over 95 percent. The building inspections team is very busy, but they are managing the workload across the team and ensuring that the industry is aware and can plan appropriately in advance.

The resource consents team has approved the stage 12 of Ngā Roto estate subdivision, which includes 42 lots. All up 576 residential lots have been developed in this subdivision. Overall, resource consent numbers are down compared to this time last year. This provides space for the team to have some learning and development opportunities. An influx is expected when the plan changes become operative.

What were your group challenges of the month?

The parks team have undertaken the landscape works for the Mangakino Basketball project, including top soiling and grassing bund around the court, tree planting and other finishing

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works such as furniture cleaning/oiling ready for the opening on 18 May. This was not planned for in the parks work programme, which created some challenges, but it is great to see the finished product. The local Tamariki voted for the eye-catching combo of LA Lakers purple and yellow colours used on the court.

The timing of the Long-term Plan audit is challenging with a very short turnaround time for changes that need to be made. While this is an important part in the overall quality assurance process, it does have a substantial impact on officer time.

The decisions of the independent hearings panel on Plan Changes 38 and 40-43 are expected to be brought to the May council meeting. This is a very significant volume of work with close to 1000 pages and a set of interrelated issues that has required a long and complex process of quality assurance to ensure that council can have confidence in the recommendations.

Work is progressing on the review of the Motutere Reserve Management Plan. However, the consultation on the draft reserve management plan will take place later than originally anticipated due to officers awaiting the formal feedback from a hapū hui. It is intended this feedback will be tabled at the next workshop at the end of May, with the Motutere Recreation Reserve Management Plan Committee meeting scheduled for 25 July to adopt the draft plan for consultation.

What is coming up in the next quarter for your team?

Taupō District Council took over as the sole trustee of the Lake Taupō Protection Trust in July last year. A closed workshop has been scheduled for 18 June to provide elected members with an update on the trust. Since July, officers have been focusing on getting the systems in place for operating the trust. This has included the annual audit, updates to the Trust Deeds and establishing the administrative processes.

Council is proposing to roll over the current Traffic Bylaw without amendment. The consultation is now open and closes on 3 June 2024. The Traffic Bylaw plays an important role in managing local roads and parking spaces and sets the requirements for a range of traffic-related matters.

Background work on the Future Development Strategy will be progressed and move into the consideration of strategic direction. We are also continuing to work on the next suite of plan changes for residential, open space and Māori purpose zones.

Heavy workload is expected in terms of advocacy on the Local Water Done Well Bill, Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Constituencies) Amendment Bill, and Resource Management Act Amendment Bill.

The parks team are continuing their programme of pavement and furniture cleaning through the Taupō town centre as well as replanting some of the older gardens. They also have some garden upgrades planned for Pihanga Road in Tūrangi and Lake Road in Mangakino in the coming months. The environmental rangers are working through their quarterly 'deep clean' of the public toilets district wide.

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TONY HALE

KAIWHAKAHAERE TUKU MAHI
**OPERATIONS AND DELIVERY GENERAL MANAGER
(ACTING)**



What were your group highlights of the month?

The council approved the unbudgeted water mains repair expenditure after repeated failures of the pipeline supplying water to homes in Omori, Pukawa and Kuratau. The work was scheduled for 2026, but the project had to be brought forward due to failures of the rising main network which services 1200 properties in the southwest of Lake Taupō.

Stuffed toys, a wooden carving, a suitcase, a chainsaw and a spatula were among the 58 items given a new lease on life at Taupō's first Repair Café. The concept behind the Repair Café, held earlier in April, was to help people who wanted to save their items from the landfill while bringing back a culture of fixing rather than throwing. It turned into a day of skill sharing and community building.

The resurfacing of Lake Terrace between Titīraupenga Street and Mere Road was completed during April, with two new pedestrian refuges created. The surface is now waterproof, much smoother and with normal maintenance should last for decades to come. After the Southern Trunk sewer pipe works are done and subject to the Long-term Plan budget, it is intended that this work will continue over the next two years down to Two Mile Bay.

I enjoyed the induction session held by the airport team to inform the Taupō Airport Authority committee members of airport history, structure, statistics, finances, projects, current issues, and future aspirations. Airport also played its part in the Supercars with the terminal being decked out to welcome visitors and airlines putting on extra scheduled flights to cater for the increased demand. The revenue and operational surplus (before depreciation) of the Taupō Airport is still trending above budget.

Owen Delany Park lighting works are now underway with fencing going up and materials starting to arrive on site. The foundations are expected to go in over the next few weeks.

Wairakei roundabout works are progressing slightly ahead of the schedule. There is a lot of work happening under the road that people wouldn't be aware of, including installing new stormwater infrastructure and moving the power and fibre cables. The landscaping treatment is 90 percent complete.

What were your group challenges of the month?

Tūrangi kerb and channel project is progressing well, and the contractor has finished Te Rangitautahanga Road and currently in Te Takinga Street. However, the current project budget will not be enough to move into the final street to do the works. The project team is awaiting confirmation whether this can be covered from the roading team's renewals budget. There will be no impact if the final street is not done now as the trees have been removed and berms cleared, ready for when a contractor can start with kerb and channel works.

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The airport terminal café is going through change of ownership. The new operator should be up and running in May.

The operations and projects team worked hard ensuring the Supercar event was not impacted by road closures and traffic cones over the weekend.

What is coming up in the next quarter for your team?

Councillors agreed to include rates-funded kerbside wheelie bins as a consultation topic in the draft Long-term Plan, giving the community options for both residential and commercial kerbside waste and recycling. The community will have a chance to give its views during the draft Long-Term Plan consultation in June. Pre-planning for the kerbside and Broadlands landfill projects is underway, pending direction from the elected members and public.

Paetiki roundabout works will take place in early May. Transport and engagement team have dropped 100 letters, communicated with local businesses, and talked to the households next to the roundabout to get their agreement for the nightworks. This way the busy intersection can remain open throughout the day.

Four tenders were received on 30 April for the Road Maintenance contract. These are being evaluated with a goal to have a new contract in place by 1 July.

Southern Trunk sewer pipe installation has progressed from Kaimanawa Reserve towards Mere Road. Traffic management will be closing the north bound lane of Mere Road towards the end of May to excavate entry and exit holes for the final section of the pipe installation on phase 1. Detour signs will be in place to direct the community, and letter drops have been done to inform the community about the project. The contractor is also door knocking as they work down the streets to re-inform the residents of the works happening outside their driveways.

Bonshaw Park pipeline works are progressing well and estimated to be completed before the end of June.

The airport terminal project is nominated for the New Zealand Commercial (construction) Project Awards on 24 May, fingers crossed.

Airport's baggage make-up extension and security fencing to the apron will be completed prior to 30 June. Extensive works may be required to reconstruct/surface treat areas of the main apron.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

REVENUE & EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE

Figure 1 below sets out the Revenue & Expenses for the financial year to April 2024.

Revenue overall is significantly ahead of forecast. In particular, our subsidies and grants revenue is higher than forecast because of revenue from central Government in relation to Turangi Kerb & Channel funding \$3.375m, Better-off Funding carried forward of \$484k, 3 waters transition funding \$128k, and funding for the weighbridge at Turangi of \$103k.

Development Contribution revenue is significantly ahead of forecast by \$2.4m, mainly due to timing of when we estimated the contributions would fall due.

Revenue from fees and charges is also tracking higher than forecast by \$1,052k. This is mainly due to building consents revenue being higher by \$345k with higher consent numbers than forecast, resource consents higher than forecast by \$108k, solid waste revenues being ahead of forecast by \$239k, AC Baths & Turtle Pool revenue being ahead of forecast by \$208k due to timing, and TEC/AC Baths membership revenues ahead of forecast by \$108k.

Other revenue is ahead of forecast by \$655k, this is due to insurance recoveries of \$125k, infringements & fines ahead of forecast by \$136k and gains on financial assets of \$346k.

\$000	YTD Actual	YTD Forecast	YTD variance	Full year Annual	Full Year Forecast
REVENUE					
Rates	78,465	78,068	398	92,517	93,681
Subsidies and Grants	9,224	5,123	4,101	7,786	7,786
Development	6,647	4,233	2,414	5,079	5,079
Fees and Charges	11,499	10,447	1,052	12,449	12,449
Finance Revenue	5,781	5,853	(72)	7,024	7,024
Other Revenue	2,942	2,287	655	8,487	8,487
TOTAL REVENUE	114,558	106,011	8,548	133,342	134,506
EXPENDITURE					
Personnel Costs	25,678	25,616	(62)	30,311	30,739
Depreciation	24,840	24,837	(3)	29,804	29,804
Finance Costs	9,737	9,734	(3)	11,681	11,681
Other Expenses	44,453	42,814	(1,639)	50,461	51,377
TOTAL OPERATING	104,702	103,001	(1,707)	122,257	123,601
NET SURPLUS	9,856	3,010	6,841	11,085	10,905

Figure 1: Statement of Revenue & Expenses at 30 April 2024

Total operating expenditure is greater than forecast year to date by \$1.7m. Personnel costs are broadly in line with forecast, with churn from unfilled roles during the year offsetting additional costs for summer students and the additional personnel costs relating to the engineering issue. The actual figure includes an adjustment relating to capitalisation of wages on projects still to process. Other expenses are \$1.6m higher than forecast. There are favourable and unfavourable variances across all expense types. The variances of

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significance are; 3 waters maintenance being higher than budget by \$912k, \$125k of costs related to insurance claims (offset overall with insurance proceeds revenue). We have also net losses on financial assets of \$866k driven primarily by shares sold by Forsyth Barr as part of the rebalancing of the TEL portfolio, partially offset by some unrealised gains.

CHANGES TO YEAR-END FORECAST

Changes to forecast reported in prior months:

Increase in rates	1,164,000
Business Excellence team	(48,000)
DGLT support (budget error)	(107,000)
Supercars support	(480,000)
Engineering issue	(569,920)
Riskpool further call	(138,871)
Net increase/(decrease) in surplus	(179,791)

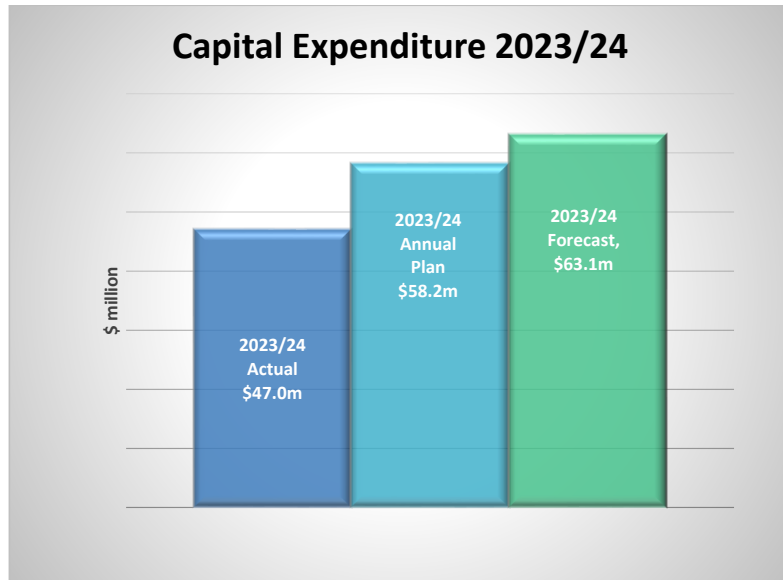
Changes to forecast in current month: Nil

The effect of these forecasted changes decreases our 2023/24 Annual Plan surplus by \$179,791

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CAPITAL INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE

We have deployed \$47.0m of capital expenditure for the ten months to 30 April 2024. The Annual Plan budget for 2023/24 of \$58.2m plus an estimated carry forward from 2022/23 of \$52m, giving a total capital budget for 2023/24 of \$110m.



April 2024

TREASURY REPORT

TREASURY COMPLIANCE

The table below sets details our compliance with the Treasury Management Policy at 30 April 2024.

DEBT MANAGEMENT		
Measure	Compliance Status	Required by
Interest Rate Risk	✓	TMP
Funding Maturity	✓	TMP
Carbon unit coverage/ hedging	✓	TMP
Liquidity	✓	LGFA
Net Debt	✓	LGFA
Debt/ Revenue	✓	LGFA
Interest Cost/ Rates Revenue	✓	LGFA
Interest Cost/ Total Revenue	✓	LGFA
Debt affordability	} Measured at the end of the financial year only	LGA
Balanced budget benchmark		LGA
Debt servicing benchmark		LGA

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT		
Investment Maturity	X	TMP
Counterparty Credit Limit	✓	TMP
Strategic Asset Allocation	✓	TMP

TMP= Treasury Management Policy
 LGFA= Local Government Funding Agency
 LGA= Local Government Act

April 2024

Investment Maturity - The General and Special Reserve Investments are currently 90% weighted toward 0-3 Months maturity versus a ceiling of 80%. We are currently holding more cash to cover forecast increased capex spend prior to year-end and are presently reviewing our funding requirements beyond the 3-month timeframe.

Note: Carbon Units have been purchased to ensure our obligations for the 2024 financial year are covered. The cost of these units aligns to the total cost of carbon set out in the 2024 Annual Plan.

CEO DELEGATIONS REPORTING

CEO approval of budgeted expenditure over \$500,000: NIL to report

CEO approval of unbudgeted expenditure over \$50,000: Nil to report



GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

PORTFOLIO UPDATE

PROJECT	OVERALL	TIME	COST	SCOPE	KEY UPDATES	UPCOMING MILESTONES	% COMPLETE (Life Budget)	LIFE BUDGET
Community Facilities								
Mangakino Lakefront Upgrade Project (phase 1)	🟡	🟢	🟢	🟢	On hold - Phase 2 will be dependent on LTP outcome.		79%	\$0.4M
Owen Delany Park upgrade	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	Building consent for the lighting towers is granted. Progressing well, expecting to break ground in the next 1-2 weeks. Fencing off for foundations.	Expecting to break ground in the next 1-2 weeks.	3%	\$8.5M
Tūrangi Recreation & Activities Centre (TRAC)	🟡	🟢	🟢	🟢	On-hold until the outcome of LTP is known		20%	\$1.3M
Democracy & Planning								
Long Term plan	🟢	⬇️	🟢	⬇️	Draft supporting information and the draft consultation document were approved for audit review on 16 April and 3 May. The information was also reviewed and endorsed by the R&A committee on 2 May. Audit review started on 6 May and will take 3 weeks to complete.	Adoption for public consultation scheduled for 31 May. Public Consultation will start on 4th June and end 5th July. Hearing and deliberations dates still to be confirmed.	0%	\$0.0M
Parks & Reserves								
Erosion control-Taupo Bay, Lake Tce Cliffs & Tapuaeharuru Bay	🟡	🟡	🟡	🟡	The concept design is being developed by Tonkin & Taylor and the team are looking at options for Kuratau shore nourishment	A completed concept design. Meeting with Ngā Kaihautu to discuss options.	64%	\$0.9M
Property								
Civic Administration Building - Fit out	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢			89%	\$1.0M
Reform, Investments								
204 Crown Road - subdivision earthworks & Civil	🟡	🟡	🔴	🟢	Received Waikato Regional Council earthworks consent	Receive TDC subdivision consent, sign civil contract, start construction	12%	\$3.5M
3 Waters Reform Activities	🟡	🟡	🟢	⬇️	Elected member workshop to be held once legislation is announced. Scope: Scope remains unclear while we await legislation. However, recent announcements have given some direction	Legislation announcement from central government on what will be required for Water Services Delivery Plans	59%	\$0.8M
EUL Stage 1 Lot 20 -Earthworks & Civil	🟡	🟡	🟡	🟡	Council support project through resolution for construction of Stage 1A, which means we can lodge consent for Stage 1A and start communication to public	Planning to lodge consent in next few days, start expression of interest process and procurement process for civil contractor and updating LTP consultation	20%	\$7.6M
Project Quantum & Tech One	🟡	🟡	🟡	🟢	In final stages of confirming all 'go live' prep for phase three. Phase four planning under way.	Cutover for phase three modules scheduled to begin at the end of May in preparation for the 10th of June 'go live' date.	81%	\$10.1M
Transport								
Northern Access Investigation	🟢	🟡	🟢	🟢	Stage 1 is complete and the consultant is currently summarising the work to date in a consolidated report with the findings of the modelling / analysis to inform the current preferred option. Stage 2 report to follow which is a detailed report based on the current preferred option, identifying the intersection improvements, roading network changes and point of entry.	Stage 1 report is due early May, with the Stage 2 report due in June.	72%	\$0.3M
Tūrangi Street Revitalisation	🟡	🟢	🟡	🟡	All work is completed in Te Rangitautahanga Road, with a 4 space car park procured and awaiting start date from Contractor. This will be constructed next to the new Playground.	Contractor has started with the kerb & channel removal in Te Takinga Street and are progressing well with demolition and the prep work for the concrete pours.	88%	\$5.7M
Wairakei Dr & Huka Falls Rd Roundabout	🟢	⬇️	🟢	🟢	Works are progressing well and we are slightly ahead of programme. We are still having some challenges with getting the Unison work completed, which may impact the removal of the power pole.	Street lighting installation is due for the week of the 13th of May.	22%	\$2.5M
Whangamata Road improvements	🟡	🟡	🟢	🟡	Design 90% complete, consultation completed with changes incorporated into design, there have been some minor delays due to changes in structural requirements.	Finalise Design and Tender Package by late May	18%	\$2.1M

GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ
Taupō District Council

PORTFOLIO UPDATE

PROJECT	OVERALL	TIME	COST	SCOPE	KEY UPDATES	UPCOMING MILESTONES	% COMPLETE (Life Budget)	LIFE BUDGET
Wastewater								
SCADA Upgrade	▲	▲	●	➔	Scope: Scope has slightly extended to include all Wastewater pump stations and Wastewater step stations - these are being managed via template update into FTView and the stations included in the pump station upgrade project phase 1 will be across into FTView by the end of May	Sites ready for factory acceptance testing prior to conversion to FT View are: Centennial Drive Water, Acacia Bay water, Whakamoenga water, Waitahanui water, River Road Water, Whakamaru water, Whareroa water	66%	\$4.6M
Taupo Wastewater Treatment Plant Primary Clarifier 3	●	▲	●	●	Design consultant is currently scoping the project to commence design	Completion of design	0%	\$1.0M
Taupo WW Southern Trunk Main Upgrade Stage 1	●	●	▲	●	The pipe has been installed from Kaimanawa reserve, down Kaka Street, into Pataka Road to the corner of Mere and Pataka. The contractor had a lot of challenges with underground services that made the directional drilling challenging.	Contractor will be shifting into Phase 2 of the project from mid May. Phase 2 will start from the Kara Place pump station.	22%	\$10.4M
View Road Stage 2 LDS Expansion	▲	▲	▲	●	Works are essentially complete, but final completion date has slipped due to challenges with integration into Stage one and onto SCADA. In the interim, the site is currently being run manually.	Final completion due for July	88%	\$5.4M
Water								
Bonshaw Park Drinking Water Standards NZ project	●	●	●	●	The complete length of pipe has been installed as well as all road crossings. Pump station is complete with electrical panel factory acceptance testing to be completed in May.	Contractor is currently installing all air valves and scour hydrants at agreed locations	51%	\$2.7M
Kinloch Drinking Water Standards NZ Upgrade	▲	●	◆	●	Awaiting delivery of remaining piles, these are due late May when piling will recommence. Cost: Costs are expected to be higher due to inflation and the technical foundation/piling solution being significantly more costly than anticipated - Additional funds are requested in the LTP for next financial year.	Complete last portion of piling and construct foundation beams	85%	\$14.1M
Motuopa Drinking Water Standards NZ Upgrade	◆	◆	◆	●	Awaiting contractor to complete indicative geotech design for peer review. Time: Red due to the flow on impact from the delays with Kinloch & Omori being the same contractor and their availability for resource. We are awaiting a new programme from the contractor now that Kinloch and Omori has been re-baselined - anticipate this in mid May. Cost: Costs are expected to be higher due to inflation and geotech design - Additional funds are requested in the LTP for next financial year.	Submission of design report from Contractor and the submission of an extension of time.	24%	\$3.9M
Omori Drinking Water Standards NZ Upgrade	▲	●	◆	●	Detailed design report has been submitted and TDC are currently reviewing it. Site works related to fencing and road entrances due to commence in late May. Cost: Costs are expected to be higher due to inflation and geotech design - Additional funds are requested in the LTP for next financial year.	Acceptance of detailed design report planned for May.	49%	\$6.0M
Tauhara Ridge Reservoir & Airport Connection	▲	◆	●	●	Reservoir pipeline and airport pipelines out for tender. Reservoir tender in final stages of preparation before release to market. Pump station design progressing well. The reservoir designation has been submitted, pending outcome. Time: Red due to delays in design.	Reservoir tender to market, and the pump station design being finalised	15%	\$2.0M

KEY

●	Low Risk	↓	Risk Decreased (Amber/Red to Green)
▲	Medium Risk	➔	Risk Decreased (Red to Amber)
◆	High Risk	➔	Risk Increased (Green to Amber)
⊖	On Hold (waiting LTP)	↑	Risk Increased (Amber/Green to Red)
89%	Almost Complete	\$1.0M	Smaller Value Project
12%	Low Spend to Date	\$8.5M	High Value Project
% Complete = \$ Spend to Date / Life Budget		\$ Life Budget	