

# **ATTACHMENTS**

**Ordinary Council Meeting**

**24 February 2026**

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**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, LEVEL 1, 67 HOROMĀTANGI STREET, TAUPŌ  
ON THURSDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 1.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Mayor John Funnell (in the Chair), Cr Rachel Cameron, Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Nicola de Lautour, Cr Ngāhuia Foreman, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Steve Manunui, Cr Wahine Murch, Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr Hope Woodward

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager Community Infrastructure and Services (T Hale), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (H Tattle), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning (E O'Callaghan), Digital Content Creator (C Hollinger), Senior Policy Advisor (H Samuel), Policy Advisor (C Pilkington), Corporate Solicitor (F Bramwell), Team Leader Corporate Planning (A Smith), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)

**MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** Four members of the public.

Notes: (i) *The karakia had been said prior to workshops held earlier in the day.*  
(ii) *Mayor John Funnell advised that the meeting was being recorded and livestreamed to Council's YouTube channel.*

**1 KARAKIA**

**2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES**

Nil

**3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Mayor John Funnell advised that he would abstain from voting and discussion during item 6.3 Appointment of External Representatives to Council Committees on appointing business representatives to the Taupō Airport Authority committee.

**4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**4.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 16 DECEMBER 2025**

**TDC202602/01 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard  
Seconded: Cr Rachel Cameron

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 16 December 2025 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

**CARRIED**

Note: *All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/01 above.*

## 5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

### 5.1 PUBLIC FORUM

Mayor John Funnell advised that no requests to speak from members of the public had been received. Cr Duncan Campbell had requested to speak and had been declined because public forums were for the purpose of public input.

While there was support from members for him to speak, the public forum was not appropriate.

#### TDC202602/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor John Funnell

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council does not proceed with Public Forum and therefore does not allow Cr Campbell to speak as he is not a member of the public for the purposes of this meeting.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/02 above except for Crs Duncan Campbell, Wahine Murch and Hope Woodward who voted against resolution TDC202602/02.*

### 5.2 SUBMISSION ON THE PLANNING BILL AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BILL

The Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning introduced herself and her role, and explained her team's contribution to policy work. The Senior Policy Advisor and Policy Advisor also introduced themselves and their roles.

The Team Leader Resource Management/Reserve Planning summarised key points from the report.

In answer to questions, the following was clarified:

- The goals of the Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill would be considered without hierarchy provided they were relevant. Government guidance for balancing these goals was expected to be provided later in 2026.
- Retail Distribution was currently managed in Taupō District Council's District Plan and had been a deliberate approach by Council when the East Taupō Arterial was in development to ensure that a secondary town centre was not developed. Removal of retail distribution in the proposed bill posed a risk to the town centre.
- The submission would be amended to acknowledge that Council officers had not had sufficient time to engage with iwi partners and in particular joint management agreement partners when writing the submission. The submission would acknowledge support for the partners' positions.
- While Council officers had not had sufficient time to engage with iwi partners, they had had informal meetings with Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board staff earlier in the week and shared the draft submission.
- For Resource Consents, there would likely be more permitted activities under the new Bill. The current RMA required wider notification to public and affected parties than the proposed Bill so they would have less ability to input into the development of a Resource Consent.
- While the Bills would make it easier to undertake development, it remained to be seen how the effects of the development would be managed.
- Taituarā's submission was 101 pages long, it had focussed a lot on the restricted timing and short time to implement of 15 months. It also highlighted that the Regional Spatial Committees would need to be set up during this time and the regulatory relief process was not practical in its proposed format.
- Council advocated with other councils on local government matters to central government at Mayoral Forums and by being part of sector organisations such as Local Government New Zealand.



**TDC202602/03 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor  
Seconded: Cr Ngāhuia Foreman

That Council approves the submission on the Planning Bill and the Natural Environment Bill subject to the inclusion of amendments requested at the meeting.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/03 above.*

**5.3 RECOMMENDATION FROM THE RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE**

The Team Leader Corporate Planning advised that this report had been presented to the Risk and Assurance Committee in the previous triennium and it had been recommended that it be received by Council.

In answer to questions, the following was clarified:

- The Risk and Assurance Committee monitored Council's management of natural hazard risks and emergency management areas of activity across reduction, readiness, response and recovery which had previously been an activity of the Emergency Management Committee.
- The report was a snapshot of current risks being faced with a focus on outstanding risks. Long-term Plan funding and improvement plans were in place but it would be important to communicate the outstanding risks to the public going forward.
- High level flood mapping had been done to reduce risk and funding had been allocated through the Long-term Plan.

**TDC202602/04 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard  
Seconded: Cr Wahine Murch

That Council receives the Review of Climate Change Risks paper (July 2025).

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/04 above.*

**5.4 COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS, AND TRAINING AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES**

The Senior Committee Advisor advised that Cr Sandra Greenslade could no longer attend the Zone 2 meeting. Other members expressed interest in attending.

**TDC202602/05 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Hope Woodward  
Seconded: Cr Sandra Greenslade

That Council

1. Approves the attendance of Mayor John Funnell and Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor at the Local Government New Zealand All-of-local-government meeting on Thursday 26 February and Rural Provincial Sector meeting on Friday 27 February in Wellington with travel, accommodation and attendance costs to be paid by Council.
2. Approves the attendance of Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Nicola de Lautour, Cr Hope Woodward, Cr Ngāhuia Foreman at the Zone 2 Local Government New Zealand meeting on Friday 27 March in Karapiro with travel and attendance costs to be paid by Council.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/05 above.*

## **6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

### **TDC202602/06 RESOLUTION**

Moved: Cr Rachel Cameron

Seconded: Cr Wahine Murch

### **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:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</b>	<b>Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>
<b>Agenda Item No: 6.1</b> Confirmation of Confidential Portion of Ordinary Council Minutes - 16 December 2025	Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons Section 7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information 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)	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	It is necessary to protect applicants' personal information that they have provided in their cover letters and curriculum vitae, and to protect privacy of property owners and negotiations that are taking place.
<b>Agenda Item No: 6.2</b> Oruanui Road Legalisation and Access Issues Update	Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including	Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to	Private property negotiations and legal opinion privilege

	that of deceased natural persons Section 7(2)(g) - the withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege 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)	result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7	
<b>Agenda Item No: 6.3</b> Appointment of External Representatives to Council Committees	Section 7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	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	It is necessary to protect applicants' personal information that they have provided in their cover letters and curriculum vitae.

**CARRIED**

*Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202602/06 above.*

**The meeting closed at 3.31pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February 2026.**

.....  
**CHAIRPERSON**

Extracts from Standing Orders 2022-2025

## **15. Public Forums | Ngā Matapakinga a te Marea**

Public forums are a defined period of time, usually at the start of an ordinary meeting, which, at the discretion of a meeting, is put aside for the purpose of public input. Public forums are designed to enable members of the public to bring matters of their choice, not necessarily on the meeting's agenda, to the attention of the local authority.

In the case of a committee, subcommittee, local or community board, any issue, idea, or matter raised in a public forum, must fall within the terms of reference of that body.

### **15.1 Time limits | Ngā tepenga wā**

A period of up to 30 minutes, or such longer time as the meeting may determine, will be available for the public forum at each scheduled local authority meeting. Requests must be made to the chief executive (or their delegate) at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the chairperson. Requests should also outline the matters that will be addressed by the speaker(s).

Speakers can speak for up to 5 minutes. Where the number of speakers presenting in the public forum exceeds 6 in total, the chairperson has discretion to restrict the speaking time permitted for all presenters.

### **15.2 Restrictions | Ngā Herenga**

The chairperson has the discretion to decline to hear a speaker or to terminate a presentation at any time where:

- A speaker is repeating views presented by an earlier speaker at the same public forum;
- The speaker is criticising elected members and/or staff;
- The speaker is being repetitious, disrespectful or offensive;
- The speaker has previously spoken on the same issue;
- The matter is subject to legal proceedings; and
- The matter is subject to a hearing, including the hearing of submissions where the local authority or committee sits in a quasi-judicial capacity.

### **15.3 Questions at public forums | Ngā pātai i ngā matapakinga a te marea**

At the conclusion of the presentation, with the permission of the chairperson, elected members may ask questions of speakers. Questions are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by a speaker.

### **15.4 No resolutions | Kāore he tatūnga**

Following the public forum, no debate or decisions will be made at the meeting on issues raised during the forum unless related to items already on the agenda. (See the LGNZ Guide to Standing Orders for suggestions of good practice in dealing with issues raised during a forum).

### **15.5 Application of restrictions | Te hāngaitanga o ngā Herenga**

Clause 15.2 above applies to members of the public addressing meetings at any time, not just as part of a scheduled public forum session.

Extracts from Standing Orders 2022-2025

**9.1 Items of business not on the agenda which cannot be delayed | Ngā take kāore i runga i te rārangi take e kore e taea te whakaroa**

A meeting may deal with an item of business that is not on the agenda where the meeting resolves to deal with that item and the chairperson provides the following information during the public part of the meeting:

- (a) The reason the item is not on the agenda; and
- (b) The reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

*LGOIMA, s 46A(7).*

Items not on the agenda may be brought before the meeting through a report from either the chief executive or the chairperson.

**Please note,** that nothing in this standing order removes the requirement to meet the provisions of Part 6 of the LGA 2002 with regard to consultation and decision-making.

**9.2 Discussion of minor matters not on the agenda | Te kōrerorero i ngā take iti kāore i runga i te rārangi take**

A meeting may discuss an item that is not on the agenda only if it is a minor matter relating to the general business of the meeting and the chairperson explains at the beginning of the public part of the meeting that the item will be discussed. However, the meeting may not make a resolution, decision, or recommendation about the item, except to refer it to a subsequent meeting for further discussion.

*LGOIMA, s 46A(7A).*

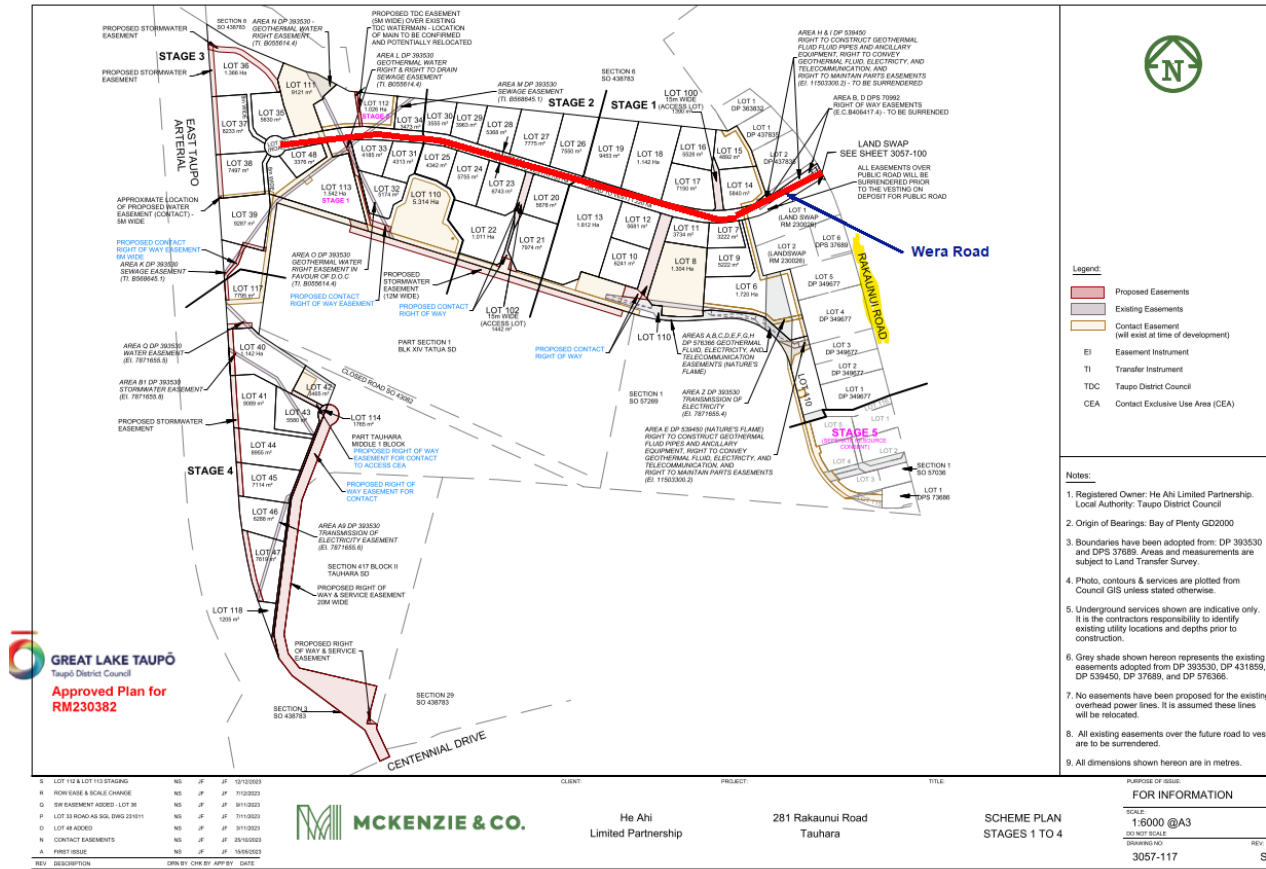
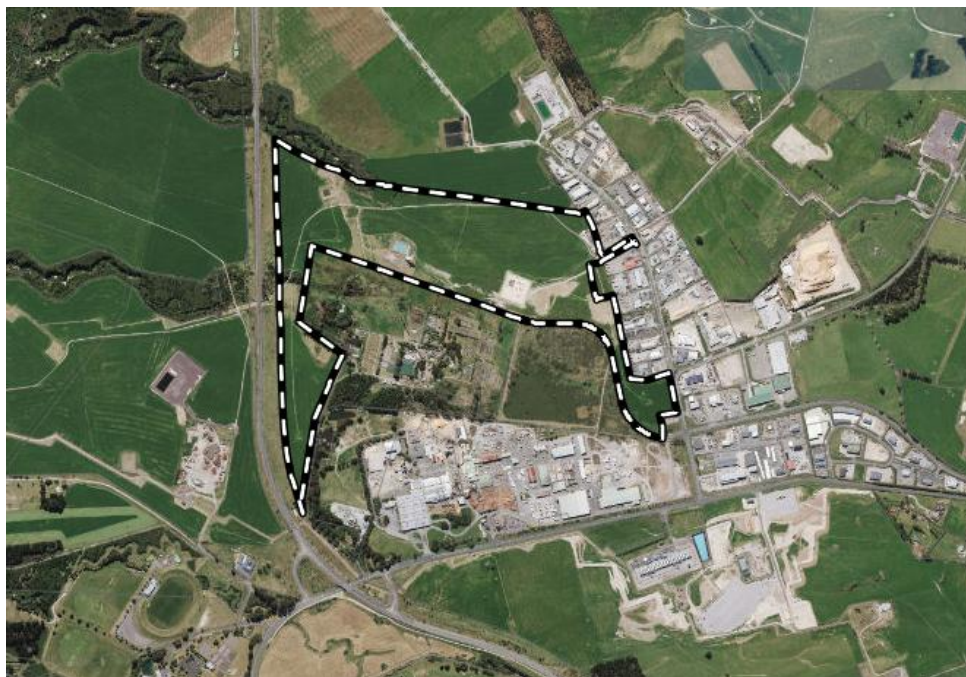


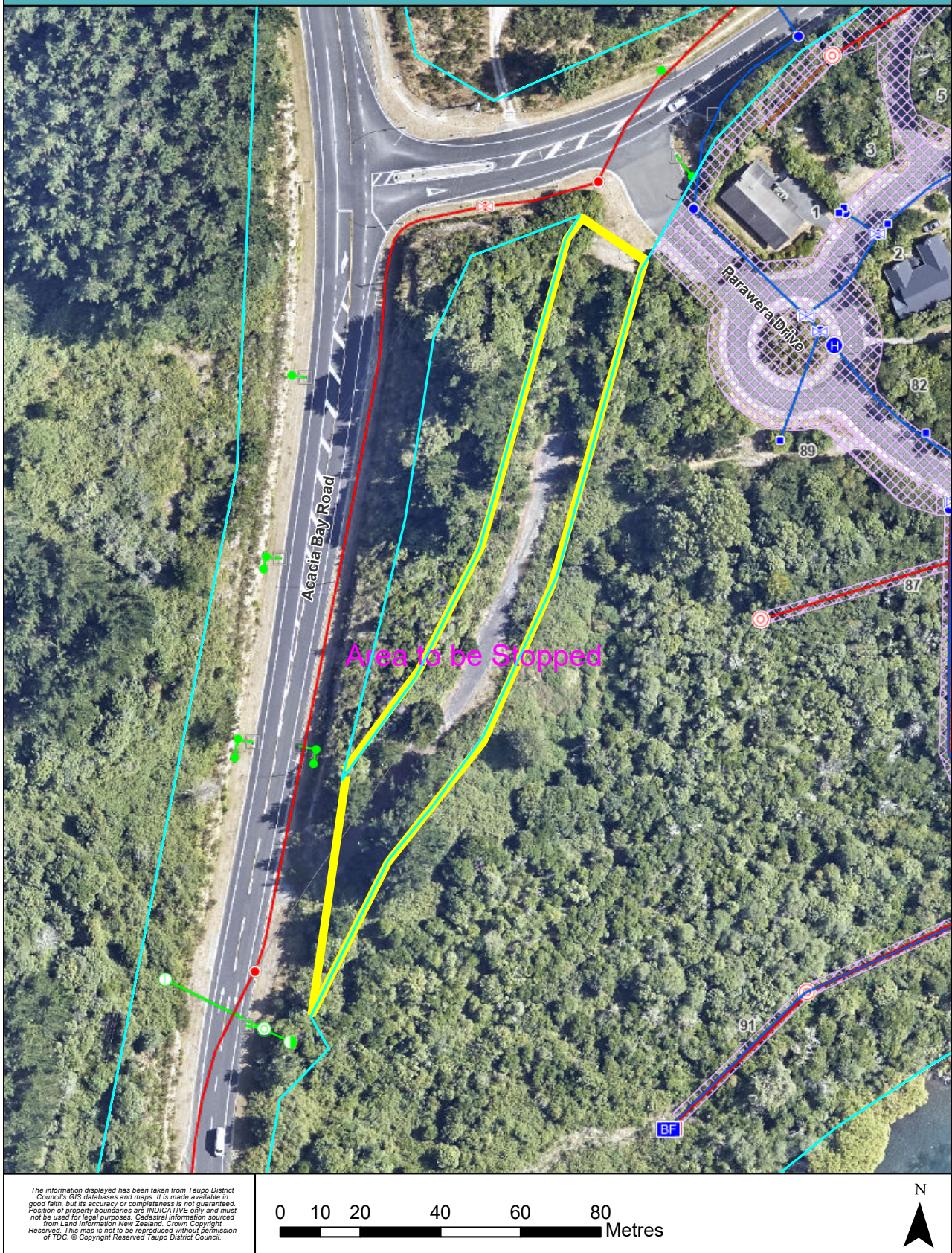
Figure 1. Map of New Road Name



*Figure 2. Location Map*

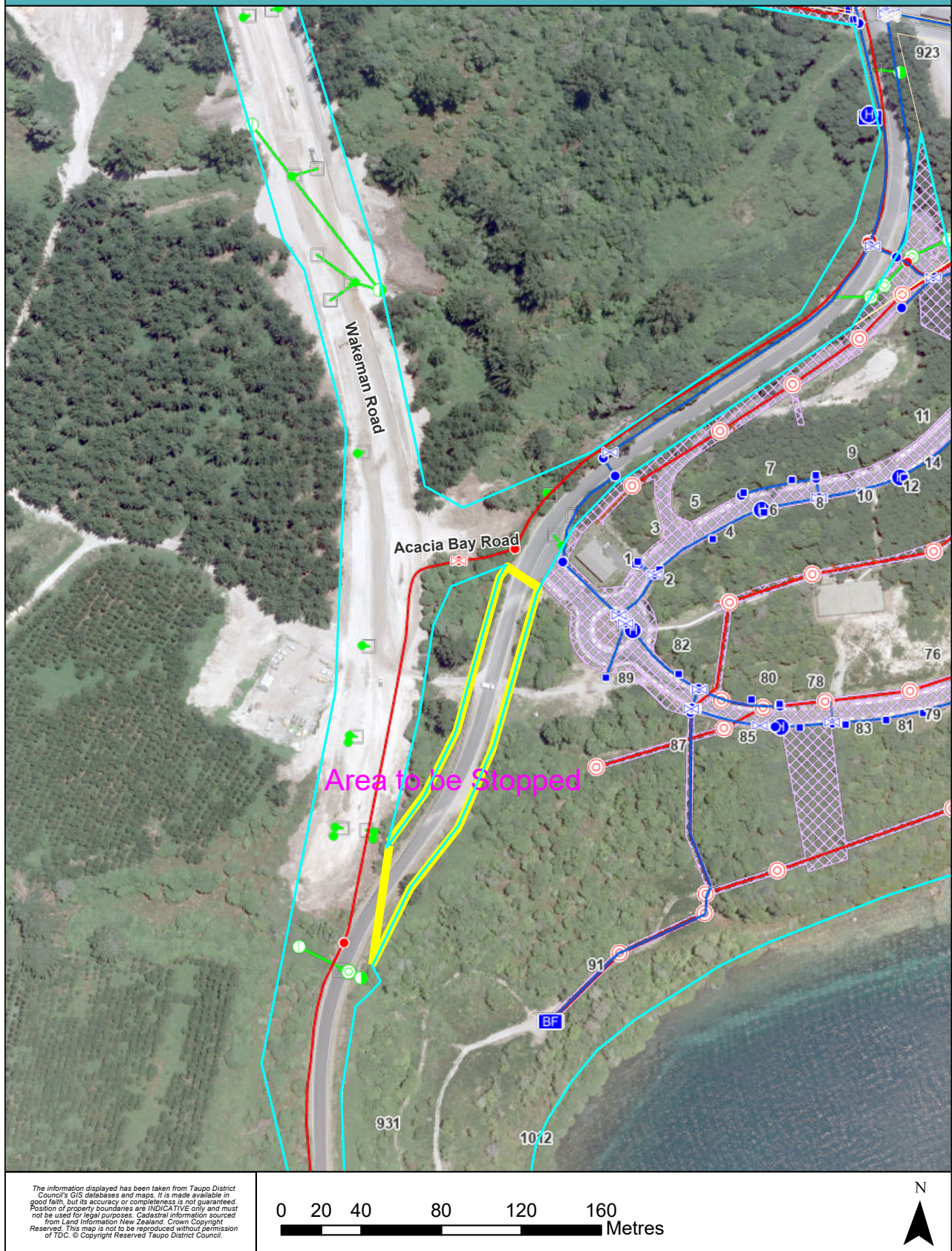


## Road Area to be Stopped





## 2008 Photo showing Realignment





## Title Plan - SO 612498

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**Survey Number** SO 612498  
**Surveyor Reference** 3942  
**Surveyor** Russell Thomas Dick  
**Survey Firm** Mckenzie & Co Consultants Ltd  
**Surveyor Declaration** I Russell Thomas Dick, being a licensed cadastral surveyor, certify that--  
 (a) this dataset provided by me and its related survey are accurate, correct and in accordance with the Cadastral Survey Act 2002 and Cadastral Survey Rules 2021; and  
 (b) the survey was undertaken by me or under my personal direction.  
 Declared on 25 Feb 2025 04:36 PM

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### Survey Details

<b>Dataset Description</b>	Section 1	<b>Survey Class</b>	Class B
<b>Status</b>	Approved as to Survey	<b>Survey Approval Date</b>	22/03/2025
<b>Land District</b>	South Auckland	<b>Deposit Date</b>	
<b>Submitted Date</b>	25/02/2025		

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### Territorial Authorities

Taupo District

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### Created Parcels

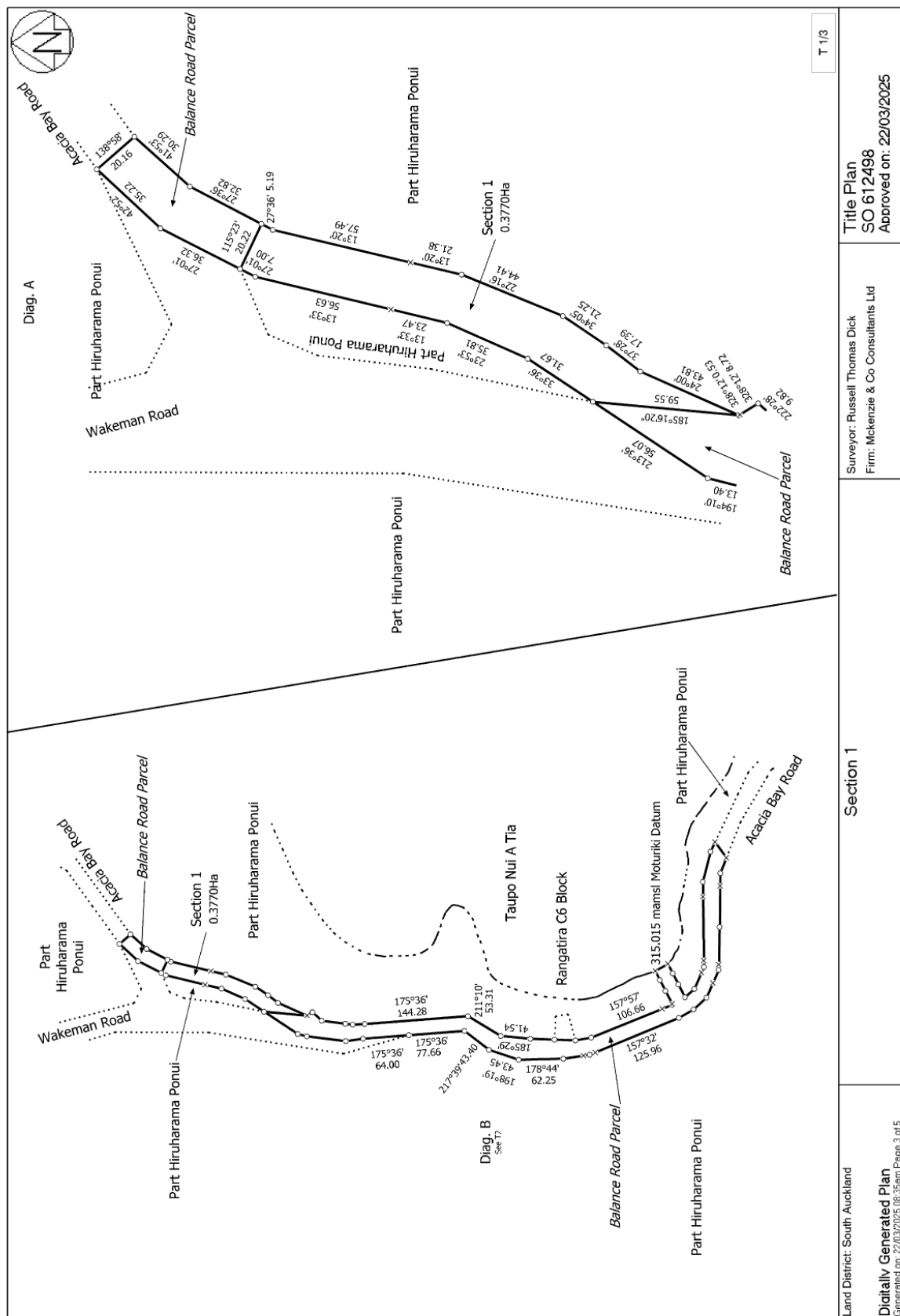
Parcels	Parcel Intent	Area	RT Reference
Section 1 Survey Office Plan 612498	Legalisation	0.3770 Ha	
	Road	0.1370 Ha	
	Road	1.9731 Ha	
<b>Total Area</b>		2.4871 Ha	

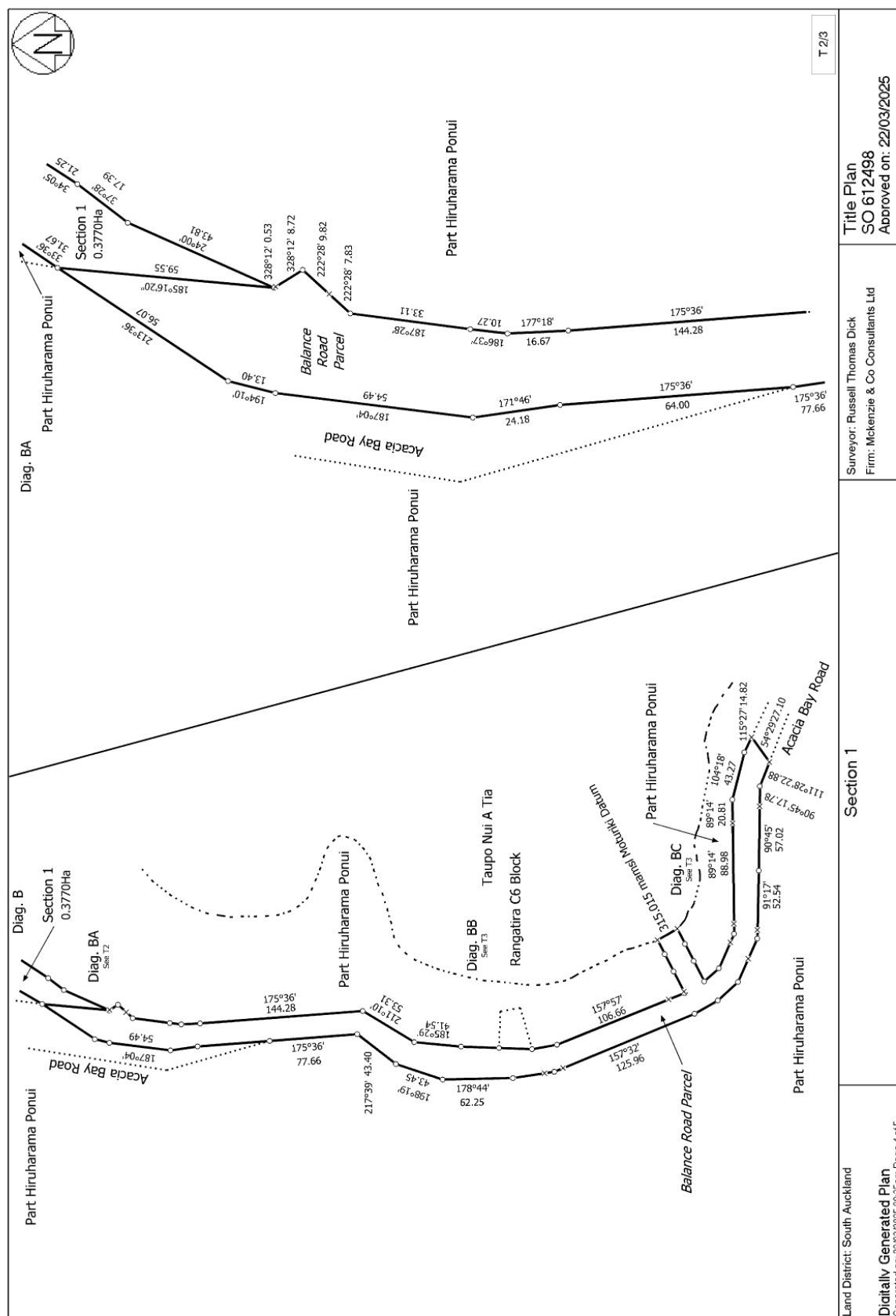
## Area Schedule

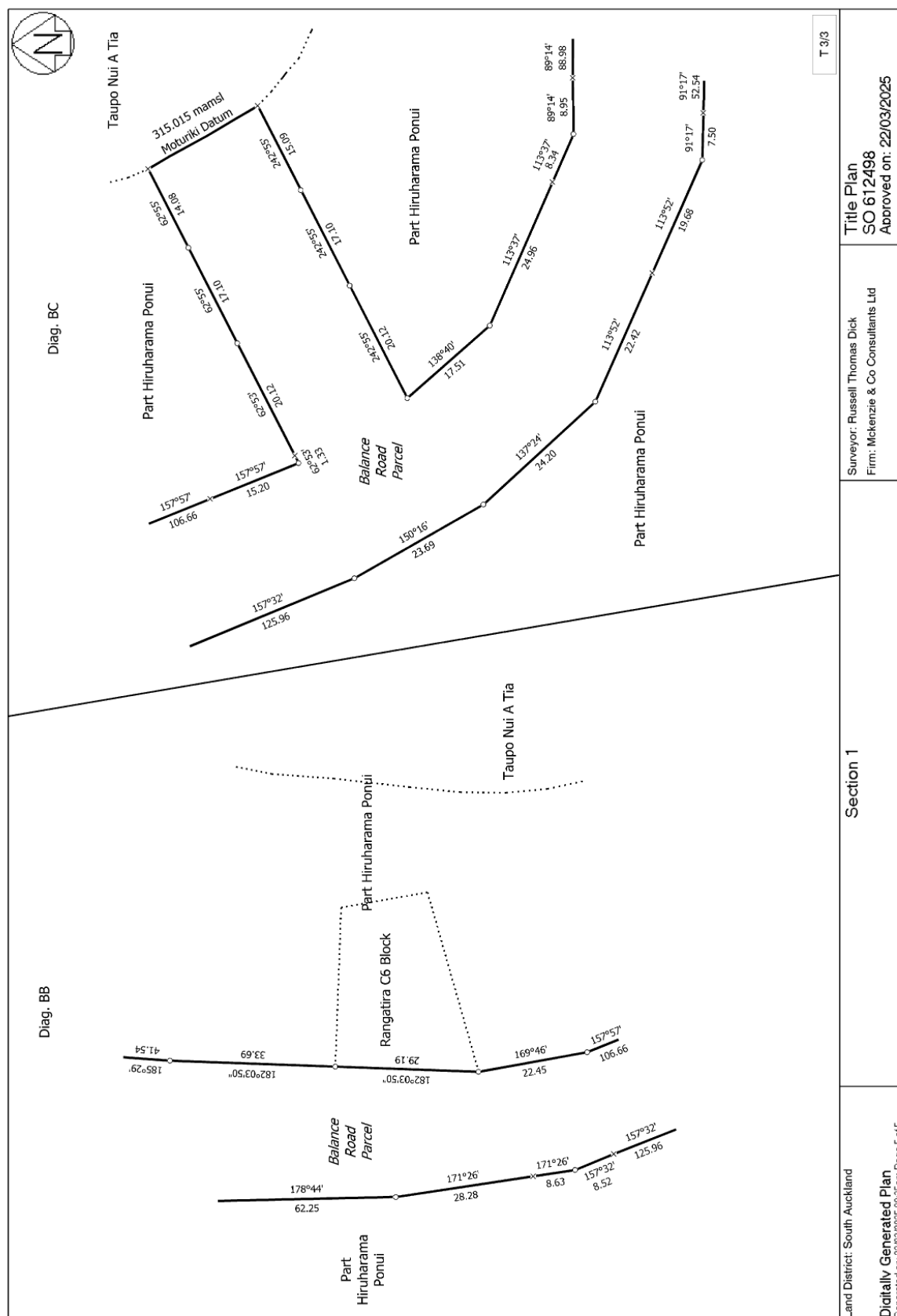
**Schedule of Areas SO 612498  
CSR 2021 96**

<b><u>ROAD TO BE STOPPED</u></b>			
<b>Shown</b>	<b>Adjoining</b>	<b>Title reference</b>	<b>Area</b>
<b>Section 1 SO 612498</b>	<b>Part Hiruharama Ponui Block</b>	<b>RT SA47B/962</b>	<b>0.3770 ha</b>

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**BAY OF PLENTY MAYORAL FORUM  
TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT**

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For the triennium from October 2025 to October 2028

## Bay of Plenty Mayoral Forum Triennial Agreement

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### 1 Parties to this Agreement

This is an agreement between the following councils of Local Government:

- Bay of Plenty Regional Council
- Kawerau District Council
- Ōpōtiki District Council
- Rotorua Lakes Council
- Taupō District Council
- Tauranga City Council
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council
- Whakatāne District Council

This Agreement does not place any limits on opportunities for neighbouring local authorities, Central Government agencies and non-government organisations to work jointly with Local Government within the Bay of Plenty.

### 2 Statement of Intent

This Agreement represents the shared desire of Local Government in the Bay of Plenty region to work collaboratively, and to maximise effectiveness and efficiency while delivering our core and statutory services and activities to our communities.

Bay of Plenty Local Authorities will also collaboratively seek to determine what are the high-level strategic regional issues and opportunities over the triennium and beyond.

This Agreement is deemed to meet the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002 (“the Act”), included in Appendix 1.

### 3 Introduction

The Act recognises that individual local authorities are only one player in the achievement of its priorities and desired outcomes, and making efficient use of its resources, and that work to promote its priorities and desired outcomes goes beyond individual local authority boundaries. The Act recognises that local authorities should collaborate and co-operate with one another and a variety of other organisations to find solutions to local issues. The main framework to guide collaboration and co-operation between local authorities within the Bay of Plenty region is the Triennial Agreement.

This Agreement describes why and how councils in the Bay of Plenty region will work together and provides an opportunity for improved communication and co-ordination at all levels of Local Government in our region. This will enable democratic local decision-making and action by and on behalf of communities. It also provides the opportunity to speak with “one consistent message” to Central Government on issues affecting Local Government in our region.



#### 4 Principles of this Agreement

The parties agree to work in good faith together for the good governance of their localities and the region. As signatories to this Agreement each local authority will:

- Continue to promote coordination and application of quality public services, infrastructure and planning for the present and future communities of the Bay of Plenty, by collaborating and cooperating as considered appropriate to achieve priorities and desired outcomes.
- Respect the individual roles and responsibilities of each party to this agreement and the statutory independence and accountability of each council to its own communities and constituencies.
- Recognise that issues and concerns that are shared by some communities and local authorities may be of little relevance to others, and that it is therefore appropriate to have a range of sub-agreements on local issues.
- Acknowledge that collaboration among local authorities is necessary to address increasingly complex governance issues. Many issues cannot be solved by any one organisation acting alone and need joint responses.
- Support the establishment of processes for communication and collaboration at both governance and management levels in ways that will give clear Bay of Plenty perspectives, and enhance the overall performance and reputation of Local Government in the region.
- Recognise that shared services in the region, or joint procurement approaches with joint or separate contracting, can bring efficiencies and savings in terms of planning, administration, consultation and operations; increases in available resources and promotion of cooperative approaches to the allocation of resources.
- Support processes through which all local authorities in the region can participate in identifying, delivering and funding facilities and services of significance to more than one district in the region, in a way that encourages efficiencies to be realised and opportunities to be recognised.
- Recognise the value of undertaking joint processes to engage with communities, Central Government, community organisations and regional and territorial authorities from other regions for issues that cross local authority boundaries.
- Strengthen Local Government collaboration and coordination in the region in ways that enhance relationships with Central Government and other parties that can influence the wellbeing of the region and its communities.
- Ensure a 'no surprises' approach with other parties to this Agreement. This will be given effect by ensuring other parties receive early notification of:
  - (a) Significant proposed decisions that may affect other parties and their communities, and
  - (b) Advice of divergent views on proposed decisions before critical public announcements are made.

## 5 General Protocols

### Mayoral Forum Meetings:

Mayors/Chairs and Chief Executives of each council, party to this Agreement, will endeavour to meet regularly to discuss Regional Priorities, strategic investments and issues, opportunities and Regional Spatial Planning, as per the Terms of Reference and agreed annual schedule of meetings, to give effect to this Agreement.

Any formal public communications from these meetings will be approved by all participating councils prior to their release.

### Significant Decisions:

Where a significant decision or issue affects a particular council, or its community, it should, in partnership with the other councils of the region, have the lead role in formulating the collective response of the region's local authorities to that issue or decision.

Where a council makes a decision that is or is likely to have consequences that are significantly inconsistent with this Agreement they will, as soon as practicable, notify all other councils in the region of:

- (a) the decision
- (b) the inconsistency
- (c) the reasons for the inconsistency, and
- (d) any intention of the local authority to seek an amendment to this Agreement.

## 6 New Regional Council Activities

If the Regional Council or one of its CCOs proposes to undertake a significant new activity, and these activities are already undertaken or proposed to be undertaken by one or more territorial authorities in the region, section 16 of the Act will apply. As such, the Regional Council will, as soon as practicable, inform all territorial authorities within the region of:

- (a) The proposal and the reasons for the proposed activity.
- (b) The nature and scope of the proposed activity and its expected effects on the activities of the other councils in the region.

Any such proposal will be included in the consultation document referred to in section 93A of the Act.

Where section 16 of the Act *does not* apply, but a proposed new activity is significant in terms of the Regional Council's Policy on Significance, and if a special consultative procedure (SCP) is required, the Regional Council will deliver a copy of the statement of proposal, prepared under section 83 of the Act, to all parties to allow them a reasonable opportunity to make submissions during the SCP. The process for mediation between the Regional Council and

the territorial authorities if agreement is not reached at the end of the SCP will be as set out in section 16 of the Act.

Territorial authorities will be given a reasonable period of time, but no less than 20 working days, to respond to any proposal that triggers section 16 of the Act. The Regional Council agrees to fully consider any submissions and representations on the proposals made by territorial authorities within the region. The territorial authorities also acknowledge a reciprocal obligation to consult when they are proposing new activities, or changes in current activities, that may have implications for the Regional Council.

## 7 Significant Facilities and Services

Where there are facilities and services that are considered to be of significance to more than one district, an item will be scheduled for discussion at the next available Mayoral Forum meeting (as noted in the schedule of meetings) or other agreed meeting that includes all likely affected councils.

As soon as practicable, and prior to the meeting, the council(s) that has identified the significant facilities and services will contact the likely affected councils to discuss. In the event that it is not clear which councils will be affected, this can be canvassed at the meeting.

The meeting will facilitate the discussion around the facilities and services including; identifying and confirming the affected area and the process for determining the delivery and funding.

## 8 Policies and Plans

For the purpose of meeting the requirements of clause 3A of Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991 (Appendix 1), the consultation process to be used by affected local authorities in relation to the Regional Policy Statement is set out in the latest version of the *Protocol for Bay of Plenty RMA Policy and Plans*. The protocol also covers the agreed consultation process on district plans and regional plans.

The protocol describes when and how local authorities in the Bay of Plenty region consult in relation to Resource Management Act policy and plan preparation and changes. There are four stages of interaction and consultation covered in the protocol. They include:

- (a) Scoping;
- (b) Drafting;
- (c) Notifying and submitting;
- (d) Appeals to the Environment Court.

Each of the local authorities in the Bay of Plenty region is a party to this protocol.

Given the imminent Central Government Resource Management System Reform, the *Protocol for Bay of Plenty RMA Policy and Plans* and its requirements, will need to be updated or replaced during this triennium.

The Regional Council will lead the development of any update or replacement, working with Bay of Plenty councils.

## 9 **Resolving Disagreement**

All parties to this Agreement are committed to working strenuously, in good faith, to resolve any disagreements that may arise in relation to its application. Where a party has a significant disagreement with the position of the others, all parties will make every effort to accommodate, acknowledge or at least fairly represent the dissenting view.

Should any disagreement arise, every endeavour will be made to ensure that disagreement is resolved with regard to the broader interests of the regional community and the effectiveness of Local Government in the Bay of Plenty region.

If the affected parties are unable to reach agreement the members may agree by majority decision to either ask Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) or the New Zealand Law Society (NZLS) to appoint a mediator.

Should such a process be unsuccessful any of the councils directly affected may ask the Minister of Local Government to determine the matter.

## 10 **Local Government Reform**

Local government reform has been widely discussed over the last decade, both nationally and regionally. The structure of Local Government has largely remained unchanged for the last 35 years and reform of Local Government is likely to be part of any future Central Government agenda. The eight Bay of Plenty councils agree it's important to provide proactive regional leadership and ensure that any reform delivers improved outcomes for Bay of Plenty communities.

# 11 **Signatories to the 2025 to 2028 Triennial Agreement**

The Agreement is effective from the date of signing until such time as it is either amended by the agreement of all parties or is renewed following the next Local Government elections.

In signing this Agreement, the parties:

- (a) recognise that co-operation and collaboration evolve as a result of successful communication and co-ordination;
- (b) are committed to ensuring that this Agreement delivers tangible outcomes for Bay of Plenty communities; and
- (c) intend that the operation of this Agreement should contribute to the strengthening of regional relationships.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair Matemoana McDonald**  
 Bay of Plenty Regional Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Faylene Tunui**  
 Kawerau District Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor David Moore**  
 Ōpōtiki District Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Tania Tapsell**  
 Rotorua Lakes Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor John Funnell**  
 Taupō District Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Mahé Drysdale**  
 Tauranga City Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor James Denyer**  
 Western Bay of Plenty District Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor Nándor Tánczos**  
 Whakatāne District Council

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_ **2026**

## Appendix 1 – Legislative Context

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### Local Government Act 2002

#### Section 15 states:

- (1) Not later than 1 March after each triennial general election of members, all local authorities within each region must enter into an agreement under this section covering the period until the next triennial general election of members.
- (2) An agreement under this section must include—
  - a. protocols for communication and co-ordination among the local authorities; and
  - b. a statement of the process by which the local authorities will comply with section 16 in respect of proposals for new regional council activities; and
  - c. processes and protocols through which all local authorities can participate in identifying, delivering, and funding facilities and services of significance to more than 1 district.
- (3) An agreement under this section may also include—
  - a. commitments by local authorities within the region to establish or continue 1 or more joint committees or other joint governance arrangements to give better effect to 1 or more of the matters referred to in subsection (2); and
  - b. the matters to be included in the terms of reference for any such committees or arrangements, including any delegations.
- (4) An agreement under this section may be varied by agreement between all the local authorities within the region.
- (5) An agreement under this section remains in force until it is replaced by another agreement.
- (6) If a decision of a local authority is significantly inconsistent with, or is expected to have consequences that will be significantly inconsistent with, the agreement under this section that is currently in force within the region, the local authority must, when making the decision, clearly identify—
  - a. the inconsistency; and
  - b. the reasons for the inconsistency; and
  - c. any intention of the local authority to seek an amendment to the agreement under subsection (4).
- (7) As soon as practicable after making any decision to which subsection (6) applies, the local authority must give to each of the other local authorities within the region notice of the decision and of the matters specified in that subsection.

### Resource Management Act 1991

#### Schedule 1, Clause 3A- Consultation in relation to policy statements

- (1) A triennial agreement entered into under section 15(1) of the Local Government Act 2002 must include an agreement on the consultation process to be used by the affected local authorities in the course of:
  - (a) Preparing a proposed policy statement or a variation to a proposed policy statement, and
  - (b) Preparing a change to a policy statement, and
  - (c) Reviewing a policy statement.

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***TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT***  
***Manawatū-Whanganui REGION***  
***2025 -2028***

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### *Purpose*

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The signatories are committed to working together to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of their communities—in accordance with principles of sustainable management for current and future generations, and of the Treaty of Waitangi.

The purpose of this Triennial Agreement (the Agreement) is to ensure appropriate communication, coordination and collaboration between local authorities within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region.

This Agreement is established under section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). It is effective until such time as it is either amended by the agreement of all parties or is renewed following the 2028 local authority elections (and no later than 1 March 2029).

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### *Parties*

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The signatories to this agreement comprise *principal signatories* (those local authorities whose boundaries are completely or primarily encompassed within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region and who primarily identify with that region) and *non-primary signatories* (those local authorities whose boundaries bisect the Manawatū-Whanganui Region but whose principal identification is with another region).

*Principal Signatories:*

- Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council (Horizons)
- Horowhenua District Council
- Manawatū District Council
- Palmerston North City Council
- Rangitikei District Council
- Ruapehu District Council
- Tararua District Council
- Whanganui District Council

*Non-primary Signatories:*

- Stratford District Council
- Taupō District Council
- Waitomo District Council

This Agreement is binding on all local authorities of the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. It is recognised that non-primary signatories retain discretion over the extent of their involvement, in proportion to the extent to which issues and decisions under consideration affect them.

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### *Working Together*

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This Agreement focuses on responding to issues and opportunities facing our communities and local environment. The parties agree to work together in good faith for the good governance and sustainable development of their local areas and the region as a whole.

Signatories to this Agreement recognise that obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi, and to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to local decision-making, extend to regional cooperation and joint decision-making. Central Government, too, has overlapping but distinct priority areas. The parties will seek to collaborate on matters of shared interest.

The wellbeing of our communities and health of our environment are best served by local authorities working together. We face increasingly complex governance issues, many of which cannot be resolved by any one organisation acting alone. Cooperation is necessary to tackle challenges such as:

- Delivering better social outcomes for communities, through affordable housing, well-functioning urban environments, infrastructure, and transport links;
- Improving the resilience of our environment and communities to the effects of climate change;
- Improving the health of our ecosystems and waterways;
- Supporting the development of a vibrant, sustainable regional economy.

The parties value and will maintain open communication, collaboration and trust, applying a 'no surprises' policy by ensuring other parties receive early notification of significant proposals that may affect them and their communities, and of divergent views on proposed decisions before critical public announcements are made.

Collaboration and cooperation between local authorities can yield administrative efficiencies, allowing for better use of available resources and more effective community participation. The parties undertake to work together toward common priorities and community outcomes, and making efficient use of resources, in accordance with LGA s14(1)(e).

While collaboration and cooperation are desirable, the region's communities and landscapes are diverse, and each local authority has the legislative mandate to govern its own area as appropriate.

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### *Governance*

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The primary mechanism to implement this Agreement is the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum (the Mayoral Forum), comprised of the region's Mayors and the Chair of Horizons Regional Council. The Forum will meet quarterly and operate in accordance with its agreed terms of reference, which are attached at Appendix One.

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will:

- Provide governance oversight of our response to regionally significant challenges;
- Promote understanding and alignment of effort across councils, with central government, and with tangata whenua;
- Advocate for the interests of the region, its councils and communities.

The Mayoral Forum will be supported by the Manawatū-Whanganui Chief Executives Forum.

The Chief Executives Forum will:

- Identify and escalate to the Mayoral Forum strategic issues and opportunities for collaboration;
- Report to the Mayoral Forum on the delivery of its agreed actions, work programmes or collaborative projects.

Other groups will support regional coordination:

- The Climate Action Joint Committee is to continue. Terms of Reference are attached at Appendix Two.

- Regional Transport Committee is to continue, as required by s105(2) of the Land Transport Management Act 2003.
- For the avoidance of doubt, Manawatū-Whanganui Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group will continue, as required by s12 of the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002.
- The Accelerate 35 (A35) Lead Team will continue to progress regional economic development.
- The Regional Leadership Group, convened by the Ministry for Social Development, will bring together senior officials from central and local government, tangata whenua, and other community groups with a focus on social wellbeing, health, and education.

These arrangements complement other mechanisms for inter-council collaboration, such as Local Government New Zealand, Taituarā, the Association of Local Government Information Management, the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia, the Local Authorities Public Relations Network, and the Manawatū-Whanganui Local Area Shared Services CCO (MWLASS).

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### *Recognition of Resolutions by Joint Committee*

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Within the parameters set through legislation – and acknowledging each local authority’s mandate to govern in its own area – the parties agree to:

- Have particular regard to resolutions made by joint committees in developing policies, determining priorities, and allocating resource;
- Progress to the fullest possible extent actions identified through joint planning and decision-making arrangements.

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### *Servicing and Support*

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Horizons will host a permanent secretariat to support the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum. The secretariat will be funded jointly by participating councils.

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### *Significant New Activities*

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When a party is considering a major policy initiative or proposal that may have implications for other parties, and unless such disclosure is inconsistent with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 or commercial confidences precludes such disclosure, they will give early notification to the affected parties and share the information with the Mayoral Forum and the Chief Executives Forum.

Horizons Regional Council will provide early advice to the Chief Executives Forum and the Mayoral Forum of any significant new regional council activity, in addition to other requirements specified in LGA s16.

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### *Significant Facilities and Services*

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The Mayoral Forum and Chief Executives Forum may from time to time explore options for identifying, delivering and funding facilities and services of significance to more than one district. Any Party to this Agreement may raise these issues for consideration.

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### *Consultation in Relation to Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) Policy & Plans*

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The following consultation process will apply to the preparation of a new, or change, variation, or review of an existing, regional policy statement, regional plan or district plan by a local authority in the Region:

- The Regional Council will seek the input of territorial authorities, and vice-versa, for the preparation or review of the regional policy statement, or regional or district plan.
- For the regional policy statement or a regional plan, the Regional Council will make the draft version available to all territorial authorities in the Region for discussion and development.
- The parties to this Agreement acknowledge their obligation to act in accordance with the principles of consultation set out in LGA s82.

In addition, the parties agree to cooperate in implementing national policy statements, to ensure alignment of regional and district policies and plans, as well as efficiency of process. The parties undertake to report, through Chief Executives, to the Mayoral Forum on opportunities to share information, jointly commission advice, or otherwise pool effort in order to give effect to national direction within appropriate timeframes and in a practicable way.

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### *Other Agreements*

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This Agreement does not prevent the Parties from entering into other agreements among themselves or outside the Manawatū-Whanganui region. Any other such agreement should not, however, be contrary to this Agreement.

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### *Resolving Disagreement*

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All parties to this Agreement are committed to working strenuously, in good faith, to resolve any disagreements that may arise in relation to its application. Where a party has a significant disagreement with the position of the others, all parties will make every effort to accommodate, acknowledge or at least fairly represent the dissenting view.

In the event of a disagreement over the actions taken to give effect to this Agreement that cannot be successfully resolved by affected parties, the parties agree to refer the issue of disagreement to mediation. Should agreement on a mediator not be possible, a mediator will be appointed by the president of the Manawatū Branch of the Law Society. If mediation is unsuccessful, any of the local authorities affected may ask the Minister of Local Government to make a binding decision on the proposal. The cost of mediation will be met equally by the parties that have agreed to the mediation.

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### *Agreement to Review*

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This Agreement remains in force until local authorities ratify a new agreement.

Any party may request an amendment to this Agreement by writing to the Chair of the Mayoral Forum at least two weeks before a regular quarterly meeting of the Forum. The Mayoral Forum will review the Agreement no later than the final meeting before triennial local body elections and recommend any changes to the incoming councils.

Any agreed amendment will be referred to each local authority for ratification. No amendment to this Agreement has effect until signed by all parties.

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***Statutory Requirements***

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This document is deemed to duly constitute fulfilment of section 14(1)(e), 15 and 16 of the LGA, and Schedule 1 Clause 3A(1) of the RMA.

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***Authority***

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This Agreement is signed by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.

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*Signing Page*

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This Agreement is signed by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.

Council	Role / Name	Signature	Date
Horizons Regional Council	Nikki Riley Chairperson		
Horowhenua District Council	Bernie Wanden Mayor		
Manawatu District Council	Michael Ford Mayor		
Palmerston North City Council	Grant Smith Mayor		
Rangitikei District Council	Andy Watson Mayor		
Ruapehu District Council	Weston Kirton Mayor		
Stratford District Council	Neil Volzke Mayor		
Tararua District Council	Scott Gilmore Mayor		
Taupō District Council	John Funnell Mayor		
Waitomo District Council	John Robertson Mayor		
Whanganui District Council	Andrew Tripe Mayor		

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## *Appendix One - Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum Terms of Reference*

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### **Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum is to support effective leadership on shared priorities and matters of importance to the region's communities.

### **Objectives**

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum has the following objectives:

- To enable Manawatū-Whanganui councils to work more collaboratively in response to regionally significant challenges and opportunities;
- To provide a forum for engagement between councils, central government, tangata whenua, and other leaders in the region;
- To explore, with iwi and hapū, how governance relationships might be further progressed in future;
- To provide a collective voice to advocate for and raise the profile of these issues and opportunities;
- To increase the effectiveness of local government in meeting the needs of Manawatū-Whanganui communities;
- To develop and implement programmes (including joint plans where appropriate), which are responsive to the needs and expectations of the community; and
- To prepare for institutional changes, such as joint planning arrangements, and oversee preliminary work to inform joint strategies and plans.

### **Principles**

In pursuit of these objectives the Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will observe the following principles:

- Establish and maintain close liaison with other local government networks to ensure as far as possible the pursuit of common objectives and the minimisation of duplication;
- Establish and maintain close liaison with Ministers of the Crown and local Members of Parliament;
- Recognise that obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi, and opportunities for Māori to contribute to local decision-making, extend to regional cooperation and joint decision-making;
- Work towards shared positions on issues of mutual concern, formalising these through letters of support, submissions and/or public statements as appropriate;
- Exercise its functions with due regard to the tangata whenua and cultural diversity of the community;
- Establish processes for reporting back to its respective councils and communities.

### **Powers**

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum shall have the power to:

- Make submissions and undertake advocacy to external organisations on matters germane to the Committee's objectives;
- Engage with key agencies and neighbouring regions on matters relating to the Committee's objectives;
- Recommend to the parties actions that materially contribute to attainment of the Committee's objectives.



**Membership**

Membership shall open to the eight councils wholly or primarily within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (Horowhenua District Council, Manawatū District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Rangitikei District Council, Ruapehu District Council, Tararua District Council, Whanganui District Council, Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council (Horizons)).

Each member council shall be represented by its Mayor (or Chair in the case of the Regional Council) and supported by its Chief Executive. On occasions where the Mayor or Chair cannot attend, a council may be represented by its Deputy Mayor or Chair.

The Mayoral Forum will have the power to co-opt other members on a permanent and/or issues basis.

**Election of Chair**

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum shall select a Chair and Deputy Chair at the first meeting immediately following the Triennial Elections. These appointments may be reviewed after a period of 18 months.

The Chair selected will preside at all meetings of the Mayoral Forum.

The Mayoral Forum may appoint spokespersons from its membership for issues being considered, in which case each member council agrees to refer all requests for information and documents to the duly appointed spokespersons.

**Meetings**

Meetings will be held quarterly at Regional House in Palmerston North, unless otherwise advised.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

The secretariat will prepare an agenda for Mayoral Forum meetings in consultation with the Chair and the Chief Executives Forum.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

**Quorum**

The quorum will consist of four members (half the number of members including vacancies).

Meetings may be held in person or by other means (such as audiovisual link) as the Committee agrees and where permissible under New Zealand law and the standing orders of the parties.

**Decision Making**

The practice of the Forum will be to determine issues before it by consensus.

If the consensus is to determine issues by voting, the determination shall be determined by a majority of votes of members attending the meeting.

**Remuneration and Expenses**

Each party shall be responsible for remunerating its representative on the Committee.

**Standing Orders**

The Committee shall apply the standing orders of Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council.

**Secretariat**

The Manawatū-Whanganui Mayoral Forum will appoint Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council to carry out the secretariat function on such terms and conditions as it shall decide for the discharge of duties, including the taking of minutes and the keeping of any books and accounts and attending to any other business of the forum.

**Variations to this Agreement**

Amendments to this agreement may be required from time to time. Changes will be approved by the parties, on the recommendation of the Mayoral Forum.

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## ***Appendix Two – Climate Action Joint Committee Manawatū-Whanganui Terms of Reference***

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### **Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of the Climate Action Joint Committee (CAJC) is to support a coordinated response to climate change across the Councils and communities of the Manawatū-Whanganui Region.

It is established in accordance with Section 7, clauses 30 and 30A of the Local Government Act 2002.

### **Objectives**

The Climate Action Joint Committee's operating objectives are to:

- Collaborate on action to build organisational, community, and regional resilience in the face of climate change;
- Make use of available environmental, social, cultural and economic research, skills and capabilities to leverage opportunities and mitigate the impacts of climate change;
- Develop a climate action plan, including recommended actions for councils to contribute to mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions and to support community resilience to the effects of climate change;
- Work collectively as a region to engage with central government, including any actions to deliver on responsibilities under the National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plan, and to support a Just Transition for our region;
- Promote consistent and effective leadership, advocacy, communication and engagement on climate change issues to enable individual and collaborative action;
- Champion the integration of partner strategies, programmes, and plans and encourage partnerships with iwi and others in central and local government, health, education, youth, NGOs and business;
- Oversee implementation of agreed joint projects;
- Share climate change evidence and guidance to inform Council work programmes and support explicit consideration of climate change impacts in decisions; and
- Monitor and report annually on implementation of the joint action plan.

### **Powers**

The Climate Action Joint Committee does not have the power to legally bind any Council to any act or decision, unless that act or decision has been agreed to by decision of that council.

Within that context, the parties agree to:

- Have particular regard to the recommendations of the Committee in developing policies, determining priorities, and allocating resource;
- Progress, to the fullest possible extent, actions identified through joint planning and decision-making arrangements.

### **The Climate Action Joint Committee shall have the power to:**

- Receive regular monitoring reports and presentations on the matters relevant to the Committee's objectives;
- Develop, adopt, and progress a joint climate action plan;

- Make of submissions and undertake advocacy to external organisations on matters germane to the Committee's objectives;
- Engage with key agencies and neighbouring regions on matters relating to the Committee's objectives;
- Recommend to the parties actions that materially contribute to attainment of the Committee's objectives;
- Receive any grant or subsidy;
- Receive financial contributions from member authorities, as may be mutually determined and acceptable to individual local authorities; and
- Determine and make payments from its funds for any or all of the purposes of its objects.

#### **Council decisions on the Joint Committee's recommendations**

Where a Council makes specific decisions on the Climate Action Joint Committee's recommendations, these will be reported to the Joint Committee by its delegate. Where the decision is materially different from the Joint Committee's recommendation the report will set out the reasons for that decision.

#### **Committee Membership**

The Committee consists of the following members:

- The Mayor / Chair or designated delegate of each local authority within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (total 8 members); and
- Up to eight non-Councillor members, to represent the views of Tangata Whenua. These appointments will be made by Horizons (HRC) on the recommendation of iwi leaders, taking into consideration their skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee.

This Committee may invite advisors to attend relevant portions of the Committee's business.

#### **Election of Co-Chairs**

The committee will elect Co-Chairs by the system described in clause 25(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The governance group will have two Co-Chairs:

- A Councillor member of the group; and
- A Tangata Whenua member of the group.

Each Co-Chair shall preside on an alternate basis. If a Co-Chair is absent from a meeting at which they are scheduled to be the presiding member, the other Co-Chair shall preside at the meeting.

#### **Meeting Schedule**

The Committee will sit at least twice each year.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

Approved minutes and approved final reports and papers will be made available via Horizons' website.

The Committee will sit at least twice each year.

Special meetings may be called at the request of members.

Agendas for meetings will be issued and minutes will be taken and circulated.

Approved minutes and approved final reports and papers will be made available via Horizons' website and a Microsoft Teams portal.

**Decision making**

The practice of the forum will be to determine issues before it by consensus.

If the consensus is to determine issues by voting, the determination shall be determined by a majority of votes of members attending the meeting.

**Remuneration and Expenses**

Each party shall be responsible for remunerating its representative on the Committee.

Tangata Whenua members shall be eligible for compensation for joint committee activity including travel and attendance at meetings.

**Standing Orders**

The Committee shall apply the standing orders of Manawātū-Whanganui Regional Council.

**Duration**

The committee will elect Co-Chairs by the system described in clause 25(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The governance group will have two Co-Chairs:

- A Councillor member of the group; and
- A Tangata Whenua member of the group.

Each Co-Chair shall preside on an alternate basis. If a Co-Chair is absent from a meeting at which they are scheduled to be the presiding member, the other Co-Chair shall preside at the meeting.

**Variations to this Agreement**

Amendments to this agreement may be required from time to time. Changes will be approved by the parties, on the recommendation of the Climate Action Joint Committee.

**Meeting Quorum**

The quorum will consist of:

- Half of the members present (in-person or on-line) if the number of members (including vacancies) is an even number; or
- A majority of members present (in-person or on-line) if the number of members (including vacancies) is an odd number.

Non-elected positions to which no appointment has been made are not considered to be vacancies for the purposes of forming a quorum.

Meetings may be held in person or by other means (such as audio visual link) as the Committee agrees where permissible under New Zealand law and the standing orders of the parties.

## Hawke's Bay Region Triennial Agreement for the Triennium October 2025 – 2028



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## 1. Parties

- 1.1 The parties to this Triennial Agreement (the Agreement) are:

**Primary Parties** (those local authorities whose boundaries are completely encompassed within the Hawke's Bay Region)

- Central Hawke's Bay District Council
- Hastings District Council
- Hawke's Bay Regional Council
- Napier City Council
- Wairoa District Council

**Non-Primary Parties** (those local authorities whose boundaries bisect the Hawke's Bay region and whose principal identification is with another region)

- Rangitikei District Council
- Taupo District Council

- 1.2 This Agreement applies to all local authorities in the Hawke's Bay region. However, it is recognised that for Non-Primary Parties the degree of involvement in various aspects of the Agreement will be in proportion to the degree to which these parties assess how they will benefit or be affected by decisions, issues, proposals or other matters.

## 2. Purpose

- 2.1 The Triennial Agreement provides the framework for local government in the Hawke's Bay region to:

- work collaboratively
- improve communication and coordination at all levels, and
- maximise effectiveness and efficiency

in order to meet the purposes of Local Government to:

- enable democratic local decision-making by and on behalf of communities
- promote the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of our communities in the present and for the future.

- 2.2 This agreement is deemed to duly constitute fulfilment of the requirements of section 15 of the Local Government Act 2002.

- 2.3 It should be noted that as well as the encouragement towards collaboration, the Local Government Act 2002 and other legislation recognises that regional councils and territorial authorities have different responsibilities. These differences provide an important context for collaboration between the councils. The requirements contained in legislation for collaboration between local authorities are contained in Appendix Two to this Agreement.



### 3. Principles

- 3.1 Parties to this Agreement agree to work together in good faith for the good governance of their local communities and the region; to develop our collective strategic capacity from available resources and achieve our strategies by working together, through co-design and partnership so every whānau and every household is actively engaged in growing a thriving Hawke's Bay economy to support inclusive and connected communities and sustainable and resilient environments.
- 3.2 In doing so, we:
- recognise and naturally implement obligations to the Treaty of Waitangi – Te Tiriti, and to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to local decision-making
  - acknowledge that the communities within the region are diverse and encompass a range of desired outcomes and objectives
  - support the establishment of processes for communication and collaboration at both governance and management levels in ways that will enhance the overall performance and reputation of local government in the region
  - recognise that collaboration and co-operation between local authorities of the region can bring efficiencies in terms of planning, administration costs and decision-making and consultation. There is also the potential to increase available resources and promote co-operative approaches in making strategic choices
  - will investigate further opportunities for collaboration, co-operation, regional funding and shared services between local authorities of the region in addition to those prescribed by statute or already being undertaken
  - agree that collaborative or shared services opportunities may occur between two or more parties to this Agreement, but not in every case between all parties to this Agreement. Although collaboration and co-operation are outcomes that should be strived for, each local authority has the legislative mandate to govern their own area as appropriate
  - will make every effort to accommodate, acknowledge, or at least fairly represent the dissenting view where some parties to this Agreement have a significant disagreement with the position of other parties to the Agreement
  - will show leadership to ensure the implementation of this Agreement makes a positive difference for Hawke's Bay.

#### 4. Protocols for communication and coordination

- 4.1 It is recognised that a significant level of formal and informal cooperation already exists between Hawke's Bay's local authorities. Further to this existing cooperation, parties to this Agreement will:
- Hold monthly meetings of the Mayors of the primary parties and the Regional Chair (aligned to the joint committee meetings as appropriate) to formally communicate and coordinate on matters of mutual interest, in accordance with the **Hawke's Bay Mayoral Forum** terms of reference in Appendix One.
  - Invite the Chief Executives of the primary parties to attend every Mayoral Forum for a period of time.
  - At the first meeting following the local body elections, elect a Chair of the Mayoral Forum from among the attendees. The Council whom the elected Chair represents will provide the administrative support for the Mayoral Forum for that triennium.
  - Host **Regional Collaboration Days** at a frequency agreed between the parties to share information, experience and build regional cohesion.
  - Attend **Matariki Governance Group** meetings scheduled by the Matariki Governance Group.
  - Share resources where feasible for the purposes of preparing information on the various communities in the region. These resources may include information on demographics, survey data, scientific studies and the analysis of social, economic, environmental and cultural trends.
  - Develop joint approaches to the development of annual and long term plans and, where appropriate, to engagement with Central Government, iwi governance bodies and tribal entities, national agencies and community organisations including consideration of establishing a Regional Office to advance common areas of interest.
  - Provide early notification of, and participation in decisions that may affect other local authorities in the region.
  - Make draft strategies, policies, and plans available to other local authorities in the region for discussion and development, where they may have regional implications or implications beyond the boundaries of the decision-making council.
  - Apply a "**no surprises**" policy whereby early notice will be given over disagreements between local authorities concerning policy or programmes before the matter is put out to the public.
  - Establish, as necessary, other forums including bi-lateral meetings, at both political and operational levels that will help enhance and achieve the purpose of this Agreement.
  - Provide a process for initiating reviews of regional forums that are not working optimally in the view of one or more parties.

**5. Significant New Activities Proposed by Hawke's Bay Regional Council**

- 5.1 If the Regional Council or a Regional Council controlled organisation proposes to undertake a significant new activity, and these activities are already undertaken or proposed to be undertaken by one or more territorial authorities within the region, Section 16 of the Local Government Act applies.
- 5.2 However, in the spirit of this Agreement, the parties agree to an expanded consultation and communication process which includes discussion of the issues involved at the first available monthly meeting (see 4.1 above), and to provide drafts of proposals to affected Councils for early comment in accordance with the requirements of sections 77-87 of the Local Government Act (decision-making and consultation).
- 5.3 The parties also agree that prior to implementing the formal provisions of section 16<sup>1</sup>:
- the Regional Council will inform all territorial authorities within the region of
    - the nature of the activity proposed to be undertaken
    - the scope of the proposal (including size, districts covered, and why); and
  - the reasons for the proposal.
    - territorial authorities will be given a reasonable period of time to respond to any such proposal. The Regional Council agrees to fully consider any submissions and representations on the proposal made by territorial authorities within the region.

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<sup>1</sup> Appendix Two

**6. Dispute Resolution**

- 6.1 In the event of a disagreement between the Councils as to the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement the Councils commit to working in good faith to resolve the disagreement. If agreement cannot be reached, then the matter in dispute will be referred to mediation.
- 6.2 If the Councils cannot agree on the appointment of a mediator, the President of the Hawke's Bay District Law Society will be requested to appoint the mediator. The costs of the mediation shall be borne by the Councils in equal shares.

**7. Revision of the Agreement**

- 7.1 The Agreement is effective from the date of signing until such time as the Agreement is either amended by the agreement of all parties or is renewed following local authority elections (by 1 March 2029).
- 7.2 If a party to the Agreement requests a review of its terms within the triennium, such a review will begin within four weeks of the request being lodged. Otherwise the Agreement will be renewed following the local body elections as outlined above.
- 7.3 Hawke's Bay Regional Council will be the first Council responsible for servicing this Agreement.

## 11. Parties - Signatures

11.1 This Agreement is signed on this day xxx 2026 by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.

### Primary Parties

#### Central Hawke's Bay District Council

Mayor Will Foley

Chief Executive Doug Tate

#### Hastings District Council

Mayor Wendy Schollum

Chief Executive Nigel Bickle

#### Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Chair Sophie Siers

Chief Executive Dr Nic Peet

#### Napier City Council

Mayor Richard McGrath

Chief Executive Louise Miller

#### Wairoa District Council

Mayor Craig Little

Chief Executive Matthew Lawson

### Non-Primary Parties

#### Rangitikei District Council

#### Taupo District Council

## **Appendix One: Hawke's Bay Mayoral Forum – Terms of Reference**

### **1. Purpose**

The Hawke's Bay Mayoral Forum provides collective leadership on issues that matter across the region. It exists to:

- Identify and progress shared regional priorities.
- Strengthen collaboration across Central Hawke's Bay District Council, Hastings District Council, Napier City Council, Wairoa District Council, and Hawke's Bay Regional Council.
- Coordinate regional advocacy to central government, iwi partners, and key sectors.
- Plan for, and oversee development of proposals to support, future arrangements for Hawke's Bay in response to government reforms.
- Support efficient, cost-effective delivery of regional functions, including joint services where appropriate.

The Forum does not replace the decision-making powers of any council.

### **2. Role and operating framework**

The Forum provides the primary mechanism for giving effect to the Hawke's Bay Triennial Agreement - including its commitments to collaboration, communication and joint advocacy – and the work mandated by government reforms.

In practice, the Forum will:

1. Lead region-wide strategy, advocacy and joint positions on matters of common interest.
2. Identify, prioritise and coordinate regional work programmes, including shared services.
3. Oversee development of regional proposals and transition plans to align with government reform.
4. Strengthen relationships with iwi partners, central government agencies, neighbouring regions and key regional organisations.
5. Share information openly, uphold the "no surprises" principle and minimise duplication across councils and regional groups.
6. Ensure matters requiring formal decisions are referred back to each council through normal processes.

The Forum's operating arrangements will be adjusted to remain consistent as the Triennial Agreement is updated and as local government reforms progress.

### **3. Membership**

#### **Members**

- Mayor of Hastings District
- Mayor of Napier City
- Mayor of Central Hawke's Bay District
- Mayor of Wairoa District
- Chair of Hawke's Bay Regional Council.

#### **Supported by attendees**

- All Chief Executives
- Secretariat support
- Invited observers (e.g. iwi/PSGE representatives, sector leaders, government agencies, or others relevant to the agenda)

**Neighbouring council participation**

To support regional linkages:

- When the Forum meets in Wairoa, representatives from Gisborne District Council / Tairāwhiti may be invited as observers.
- When the Forum meets in Waipawa, representatives from Tararua District Council may be invited as observers.

**Chairing**

- The Chair will rotate among councils on a yearly basis. The Chair is elected at the first meeting in the new calendar year.
- A Deputy Chair will also be appointed.
- If the Chair is absent, the Deputy Chair chairs the meeting.

**Member Responsibilities**

Members agree to:

- Act in the best interests of the Hawke's Bay region when sitting as the Forum.
- Keep their governing councils informed.
- Work in a "no surprises" manner with one another.
- Uphold the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in alignment with each council's commitments.

**Meetings****5.1 Frequency**

- The Forum meets monthly.
- Additional meetings may be called by the Chair or at the request of at least two member councils.

**5.2 Venue rotation**

1. Wairoa
2. Napier
3. Hastings
4. Waipawa.

**5.3 Agenda and papers**

- The Forum secretariat prepares the agenda with the Chair and Chief Executives.
- Papers circulated at least five working days before the meeting.
- A short public summary may be prepared where appropriate.

**5.4 Direction setting**

- The Forum aims for consensus.
- Decisions of the Forum are not binding on any council unless formally adopted by that council.

**6. Secretariat and support**

- Initially supported by the [TBC - Hawke's Bay Regional Office].
- Responsible for:

- meeting administration
- agendas and minutes
- regional work programme coordination
- tracking progress and reporting
- managing shared services budgets and external funding

A Chief Executives' Forum will meet ahead of each Forum meeting to coordinate advice and prepare work for Mayors' consideration.

#### **7. Shared Services Budget**

The Forum will:

- Agree an annual shared services budget, levied across member councils by agreement.
- Receive grants, contributions or external funding (via the host agency for the Hawke's Bay Regional Office).
- Commission regional work or projects on behalf of the councils.

Any funding commitments must be approved through each council's financial processes.

#### **8. Partnership with Iwi and Hapū**

The Forum recognises the important role of mana whenua and tangata whenua.

Forum members will:

- Participate in the Matariki Governance Group which brings together the region's civic and iwi leadership to discuss matters of regional significance.
- Maintain ongoing dialogue with the Chairs of Ngāti Kahungunu and Post-Settlement Governance Entities, and leadership of Taiwhenua organisations.
- Invite iwi representatives to participate where matters of shared interest arise.
- Ensure Treaty partnership considerations are built into regional work programmes.

#### **9. Conflicts of Interest**

- Members must act with integrity and avoid situations where their personal or professional interests conflict with the Forum's objectives.
- Where a conflict (actual or perceived) arises, members must declare it at the start of the meeting.
- The Chair may request that a member withdraw from discussion or decision-making on that item if required.
- Declarations will be recorded in the meeting notes.

#### **10. Local government reforms**

To get the best arrangements for Hawke's Bay and to support a coordinated and cohesive response to local government reforms, the Forum is delegated by member councils to:

- Develop and recommend proposals that align with local government reforms.
- Provide joint regional positions and advice to central government on the best arrangements for regional functions in Hawke's Bay.
- Oversee preparatory work relating to regional shared services opportunities.
- Commission joint analysis and prepare regional proposals, noting that final decisions remain with each council.



These delegations allow the Forum to coordinate work efficiently; they do not transfer statutory decision-making powers.

#### **11. Dispute Resolution**

If disagreement arises:

- 1. Informal discussion**
  - Members will first seek to resolve the issue through discussion at the Forum.
- 2. Chief Executives' mediation**
  - If not resolved, the matter is referred to the Chief Executives' Forum to propose a way forward.
- 3. Independent facilitation**
  - If still unresolved, an independent facilitator may be appointed by agreement of the Chair and Deputy Chair.
- 4. Referral back to councils**
  - If no agreement is reached, each council retains the right to determine its own position through its normal decision-making processes.

The aim is to maintain constructive regional relationships while respecting council autonomy.

#### **12. Transparency and public communication**

- The Forum may release joint communications on regional issues.
- Public summaries of meetings may be provided.
- Individual councils may reference Forum discussions but should do so in a way that maintains trust and "no surprises".

#### **13. Review**

These Terms of Reference will be reviewed:

- at the start of each triennium,
- or earlier if needed to reflect legislative changes, including establishment of the Combined Territories Board.

**Appendix Two: Legislative Context****Local Government Act****Section 14 Principles relating to local authorities**

- (1) in performing its role, a local authority must act in accordance with the following principles:
  - (e) a local authority should actively seek to collaborate and cooperate with other local authorities and bodies to improve the effectiveness and efficiency with which it achieves its identified priorities and desired outcomes.

**Section 15 Triennial agreement**

- (1) Not later than 1 March after each triennial general election of members, all local authorities within each region must enter into an agreement under this section covering the period until the next triennial general election of members.
- (2) An agreement under this section must include—
  - (a) protocols for communication and co-ordination among the local authorities; and
  - (b) a statement of the process by which the local authorities will comply with section 16 in respect of proposals for new regional council activities; and
  - (c) processes and protocols through which all local authorities can participate in identifying, delivering, and funding facilities and services of significance to more than 1 district.
- (3) An agreement under this section may also include—
  - (a) commitments by local authorities within the region to establish or continue 1 or more joint committees or other joint governance arrangements to give better effect to 1 or more of the matters referred to in subsection (2); and
  - (b) the matters to be included in the terms of reference for any such committees or arrangements, including any delegations.
- (4) An agreement under this section may be varied by agreement between all the local authorities within the region.
- (5) An agreement under this section remains in force until it is replaced by another agreement.
- (6) If a decision of a local authority is significantly inconsistent with, or is expected to have consequences that will be significantly inconsistent with, the agreement under this section that is currently in force within the region, the local authority must, when making the decision, clearly identify—
  - (a) the inconsistency; and
  - (b) the reasons for the inconsistency; and
  - (c) any intention of the local authority to seek an amendment to the agreement under subsection (4).
- (7) As soon as practicable after making any decision to which subsection (6) applies, the local authority must give to each of the other local authorities within the region notice of the decision and of the matters specified in that subsection.

**LGA Section 16 Significant new activities proposed by regional council**

- (1) This section applies if,—
  - (a) in the exercise of its powers under section 12(2), a regional council proposes to undertake a significant new activity; or
  - (b) a regional council-controlled organisation proposes to undertake a significant new activity; and
  - (c) in either case, 1 or more territorial authorities in the region of the regional council—
    - (i) are already undertaking the significant new activity; or
    - (ii) have notified their intention to do so in their long-term plans or their annual plans.
- (2) When this section applies, the regional council—
  - (a) must advise all the territorial authorities within its region and the Minister of the proposal and the reasons for it; and
  - (b) must include the proposal in the consultation document referred to in section 93A.
- (3) A proposal included in the consultation document referred to in section 93A must include—
  - (a) the reasons for the proposal; and
  - (b) the expected effects of the proposal on the activities of the territorial authorities within the region; and
  - (c) the objections raised by those territorial authorities, if any.
- (4) If, after complying with subsection (2), the regional council indicates that it intends to continue with the proposal, but agreement is not reached on the proposal among the regional council and all of the affected territorial authorities, either the regional council or 1 or more of the affected territorial authorities may submit the matter to mediation.
- (5) Mediation must be by a mediator or a mediation process—
  - (a) agreed to by the relevant local authorities; or
  - (b) in the absence of an agreement, as specified by the Minister.
- (6) If mediation is unsuccessful, either the regional council or 1 or more affected territorial authorities may ask the Minister to make a binding decision on the proposal.
- (7) Before making a binding decision, the Minister must—
  - (a) seek and consider the advice of the Commission; and
  - (b) consult with other Ministers whose responsibilities may be affected by the proposal.
- (8) This section does not apply to—
  - (a) a proposal by a regional council to establish, own, or operate a park for the benefit of its region; or
  - (b) a proposal to transfer responsibilities; or
  - (c) a proposal to transfer bylaw-making powers; or
  - (d) a reorganisation application under [Schedule 3](#); or
  - (e) a proposal to undertake an activity or enter into an undertaking jointly with the Crown.
- (9) For the purposes of this section,—
 

**affected territorial authority** means a territorial authority—

  - (a) the district of which is wholly or partly in the region of a regional council; and
  - (b) that undertakes, or has notified in its long-term plan or annual plan its intention to undertake, the significant new activity

**annual plan—**

- (a) means a report adopted under section 223D of the Local Government Act 1974; and
- (b) includes such a report that section 281 applies to

**new activity—**

- (a) means an activity that, before the commencement of this section, a regional council was not authorised to undertake; but
- (b) does not include an activity authorised by or under an enactment

**regional council-controlled organisation** means a council-controlled organisation that is—

- (a) a company—
  - (i) in which equity securities carrying 50% or more of the voting rights at a meeting of the shareholders of the company are—
    - (A) held by 1 or more regional councils; or
    - (B) controlled, directly or indirectly, by 1 or more regional councils; or
  - (ii) in which 1 or more regional councils have the right, directly or indirectly, to appoint 50% or more of the directors of the company; or
- (b) an organisation in respect of which 1 or more regional councils have, whether or not jointly with other regional councils or persons,—
  - (i) control, directly or indirectly, of 50% or more of the votes at any meeting of the members or controlling body of the organisation; or
- (ii) the right, directly or indirectly, to appoint 50% or more of the trustees, directors, or managers (however described) of the organisation.





# REPRESENTATIVE GROUP REVIEW 2026

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT

### Document controls:

Prepared for	Elected Members
Prepared by	Jennifer Charteris
Reviewed/approved by	Tania Russell
Date	12 February

### Distribution:

Hadley Tattle	General Manager People and Community Partnerships
Julie Gardyne	Chief Executive
Council meeting	Elected members

## 1. Background

### 1.1 Engagement context

In late 2025, after the local elections, the recently elected members started a review of Representative Group committees (Rep Groups) and what format these would take for the next three years.

As part of this review, Council directed staff to undergo consultation to understand community views to aid in decision making. Results will be presented to elected members, who will then decide on the future of Representative Groups in Council Meeting.

### 1.2 Methodology

The engagement methods used were:

- Online survey (consultation period: 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 until 31st January 2026). A copy of the survey questions is in **Appendix 1**.
- In person engagement events - 21 in-person engagement sessions were held across the rohe. The events involved the use of three content boards to support conversations and assist in communicating key messages and how to have their say in the online survey (see Appendix 2). Two engagement team members minimum were available to provide information and answer questions. Elected members were also invited to attend each session. Where possible the events worked in with existing community events such as markets, community events, and other community activities. The engagement team also worked with key community contacts to jointly organise some events such as agreeing locations, times and days that they suggested would work for the majority of people in the community. Elected members also provided suggestions of locations for engagement events which were delivered where possible and resource allowed.
- Static display – Information boards (Appendix 2) were on display during consultation period in Mangakino Library and Customer Service Centre and Taupō Library including QR code to access online survey. Hard copies of survey were also available and a submission box for paper submissions.

## 2. Consultation and engagement outcomes

### 2.1 High level snapshot

- **In person events:** We delivered 21 in-person engagement events across the rohe. We had an estimated **316** people attend all events (numbers are estimated by using a 'tally' system).
- **Submissions:** We had a total of 413 submissions through the survey, which included 60 hardcopy submissions (15%), and 353 online (85%). We had an additional 6 submissions sent into the engagement email box separately of behalf of key community group members.
- **Digital comms/engagement:** The survey and events were promoted through the website, articles in Taupo and Turangi News, Council newsletter (Korero) and social media channels. Feedback gained through these platforms can be read in a separate file: [Rep Group Review Social Media Info](#).

### 2.2 In-person engagement events

There were 21 events across major and smaller communities with additional sessions organised in response to community requests and where we could align with existing events in the area (Wairakei, River Road, Tirohanga, Hatepe, Waitahanui, Pukawa. 1 event was cancelled due to weather (Acacia Bay Picnic) and a further 4 offers to communities were declined by key community group contacts (Whareroa, Pukawa, Motuoapa, Rangitaiki) due to a variety of factors. Some key viewpoints and suggestions were also noted from informal conversations with members of the public.

The table below shows attendance per area at the events, resource hours and the general sentiment:

General sentiment and attendance number by area			
Ward/area	Total attendee numbers	Total event hours including set up/pack up	General sentiment
Tūrangi	52	16 hours	A consistent sense of genuine community interest and willingness to engage despite many people noting they didn't know the Representative groups existed. Some people who did know about Rep groups commented that they thought Rep groups needed a rethink of how they are set up so they can better serve the community.
Tongariro	31	12 hours	The southern lakes communities were engaged and proactive. Many commented that they would like to keep the Representative Group committee but feel the structure needs to change.  Many key community contacts declined the need for us to come to their community.
Taupō East Rural	41	9 hours	Many in River Road Broadlands commented they would like more informal, discussion-based meetings, with other councillors and entities involved. Many said they want to ensure meetings are minuted and reported back in a simple, easy-to-follow format.  In Wairakei, some commented they prefer an informal public forum, and some supported keeping the Rep Group, a few comments were made about increased education about the meetings needed.
Taupō	88	27 hours	Many comments showed support for informal, easy-access engagement options such as drop-in spaces, forums, recorded meetings, and small-group hui. Interest levels varied: some weren't looking to connect with council or were happy with TDC comms and know how to access info and services they require, while others said they would engage if meetings were well-organised and clearly advertised through newspapers and the website. Other comments suggested the following is important: film/record meetings, updates on upcoming projects, simple meeting notes with follow-up, after-work timing, kid-friendly options, and more transparency around actions and outcomes.  Some Waitahanui residents said they were interested in what their area could have in terms of a Rep Group or forum.
Mangakino/Pouakani	53	26 hours	Many people commented they would like to keep the Rep Group structure and formal processes like agendas and minutes. Some people

			<p>in Tirohanga commented that the Rep Group has worked well over many years so should continue.</p> <p>Many commented the public forum section of the meetings needs to be less formal- more of a discussion style. Some comments about a desire for an informal public forum alongside a formal Rep group — something relaxed, friendly, and comfortable, where people can talk openly as some felt their local reps haven't always brought community views into Rep Group meetings, so informal hui are seen to strengthen that connection.</p>
Kinloch	51	10.5 hours	<p>Majority of comments showed support for more informal style meetings but having some formalities was very important such as minutes, and agendas and a solid chair to help direct discussion. Some commented that they prefer to keep the Rep group but with more informal discussion instead of the public forum. Some comments made about not wanting to have x2 different meetings (informal and formal) but to keep it simple and accessible.</p>
<b>Total: 21 Events</b>	<b>316 attendees</b>	<b>105.5 hours event time including setup</b>	

In general, the 21 engagement events went well and on average had good numbers of attendance with robust conversations. The events were a great way to connect with our communities from larger settlements to smaller areas. Even though some communities did not feel they wanted an in-person engagement session, the team were able to cover a wide area and offered sessions in close distance proximity to most areas. The events enabled us to create great community and council connection which felt like an overall positive outcome.

As shown in the table, attendance at in-person events varied greatly between different events and locations. The highest attended events (with estimated attendees of 15 or more) included Mangakino pop-up (35), Taupō Library on 21<sup>st</sup> January (15), Kinloch lakefront (37), Tūrangi Market on 25<sup>th</sup> January (27), Pukawa at Oreti Restaurant (15), Waitahanui Hall (17), Wairakei Village (30).

The least attended events were Tirohanga Hall (7), Mangakino Library sessions (each Wednesday in order: 8, 0, 3, 0), Taupō Library (first two sessions in order: 5, 3).

An additional meeting was added after the Pukawa event with a specific whanau in Pukawa who requested to meet with the Southern Lakes Partner to discuss the Rep Group Review (6).



### 2.3 Survey data summary – Platform: ‘Ask your team’

This is intended to be a summary of key areas in the survey data, however for all survey data, please read attachment Rep Review Survey Data Report: See attachment 1 on agenda paper.

#### 2.3.1 Participation in survey

413 Surveys were submitted, which is 1.1% of the district’s population (population based on the latest estimate from [Stats NZ: June 2025](#)).

From the 413 surveys we gathered 2439 comments. There were an additional 77 surveys were started but not submitted however data from here could not be gathered since not submitted. This is quite a high number (almost a sixth of the total surveys started). This could be for a variety of reasons such as technical (exiting the page, or people thought they submitted but they didn’t), people starting but not ready to submit and coming back later, or the survey had too many questions (this tends to be the case for younger participants such as youth).

#### 2.3.2 Demographics snapshot (questions 1-4):

The majority of respondents to the survey were 66+ (45%), with ‘18-25’ age group and ‘less than 18’ the two lowest groups (1% and 3% respectively). Waitahanui had the most younger age group per respondents with 60% of those who completed the survey under 25 years, this was followed by Wairakei with 36% under 25 years. This was likely due to the activities run at engagement events (Waitahanui was at touch training and Wairakei had games at the events).

We were able to group areas into clusters of near-by communities and also analyse the results by ward. A summary has been provided based on ward below. Kinloch results in the Taupō ward are shown separate to the rest of the Taupō ward due to them having a separate Rep Group. Taupō ward (excluding Kinloch) were the highest responding group (132 surveys) followed by Tūrangi-Tongariro ward (126 surveys). Due to the location category in the survey being limited to 13 groups, this meant a number smaller communities were unable to be included in the base list. To rectify this error, an ‘other’ option was added, which enabled us to capture other areas and categorise them later into groups. This will be improved for future surveys. We can also consider adding in questions by ward to enable us to more easily pull this information.

The majority of respondents to the survey identified as New Zealand European (71%) followed by Māori (19%) and other (9%). There were more females (56%) than males (41%) who completed the survey but it was good to see it wasn’t highly weighted one direction with only a little over and under half and half. 2 people identified as non-binary.

#### Attendance in the past for representative group meetings (question 5):

Of those wards/areas who already have rep group meetings (Kinloch, Mangakino-Pouakani, Taupō East Rural, Tongario) only 38% of respondents have attended a Rep Group meeting in the past, however 62% have not attended at all before. The highest rate of respondents having attended at least one meeting was Kinloch at 73%, and lowest was Tūrangi-Tongariro at 21% followed by Taupō East Rural 38% and Mangakino-Pouakani at 45%. Taupo ward majority stated they had not attended a Rep Group meeting – this is because they do not currently have them, so they have been taken out of this analysis.

#### Best methods connect with Councillors (question 6):

When asked how respondents would prefer to raise something with the Mayor or Councillors, the majority of people said they would prefer email (66%) or by meeting (72%). Meeting can be broken down to formal meeting (38%) or informal meeting (34%).

#### 2.3.3 Survey feedback on meetings

These questions relate to past attendance at Rep Groups, if they would like to continue to formal meetings, best times and days for meetings, and how the community feel they can share their views into the Councillors and Mayor. We saw some variance across the rohe in levels of formality but overall a tendency toward less formal meetings (see below).

**Formality of meetings (question 7):**

The average overall across the rohe from (0) formal meeting or something (10) less formal was **5.7**, showing that it was either a mix of responses between formal and informal, or that people liked to have something in-between. This varied across the district between wards and also between towns. The two places that suggested the most formal meetings were Turangi-Tongariro (**4.5/10**) and Mangakino-Puakani (**4.1/10**), but even then, this was mixed which shows a tenancy toward somewhere slightly formal (but potentially less formal than current). The areas which requested the most informal meeting were Kinloch at (**7.7/10**), Taupo at (**6.8/10**) and Taupo-East Rural (**6.3/10**).

**What would make it easier to connect with mayor and councillors (question 8):**

**Taupo (excluding Kinloch):** Many people asked for more opportunities to engage, and suggestions include going to where people are; popups at markets, schools/kura, sports grounds, and regular open forums—so people can connect better.

**Kinloch:** Coffee chats or relaxed, private chats after meetings so people feel comfortable to speak. Regular community catchups and inclusive formats, cater for different timings for groups. For meetings, suggestion to aid connection include simple agendas, a capable chair, time for questions, and visible notes/minutes or summaries with outcomes and next steps. They also suggest calendar availability to connect with elected members such as book-a-slot calendars for 1:1s; video conferencing as an alternative; short video updates; online “ask me anything” style forums.

**Mangakino:** Themes from the survey platform include making contact easier and more local; keep elected member engagement regular and visible in the community; timing to have options of meetings outside work hours. There’s strong support to retain/strengthen representative groups for equity and Māori representation.

**Turangi-Tongariro ward:** Tenancy to want more connection points such as informal drop-in windows, café/one-on-one chats, relaxed settings with coffee/tea. Some people asked for meetings and opportunities to include options outside working hours, predictable/regular windows, set times “between given hours” so more locals can attend. There were comments to continue formal meetings as it aids in accountability with minutes and an action log and also a call for more councillors present at the south end; locals who understand their area.

**Taupo-East Rural:** Strong signals in comments for less formal, small group/contact options with elected members, convenient locations, and meeting formats that encourage all voices - combined with clear structure, predictable timing, and written follow-up. Some comments suggest members have a regular presence at community events and popups where people already are (playgrounds, parks, local events) and semiregular engagement opportunities.

**Topics that matter most to the community (question 9):**

Top topics that were mentioned across the rohe included Infrastructure (39%), community planning (facilities, health and planning) (24%), Environment (19%), Safety (roads and infrastructure, or public safety) (13%), resource management (6%) and water management (6%).

**Time and location of meetings (questions 10 & 11):**

This provides a high-level summary of preferred methods, frequency, and location to have contact with mayor and councillors by ward (read full comments in the report – Appendix 3.):

**Taupō ward (excluding Kinloch):** Many suggest varying the times of each meeting so that different demographics, such as workers, parents, or retired people have a time suitable to them. Some suggest weekends or times that local people are already out and about. Locations suggested include Council chambers, Coffee shops, Library, neutral ground, markets, coffee shops or over a cuppa tea. Waitahanui suggest coming to their community hall, and other comments suggest somewhere in the suburbs in smaller groups.

**Kinloch:** Afternoons and evenings were the most popular comment to cater for those who work, however many suggested mornings for casual catchups and many who were retired said they were flexible. There were also a few that suggested meeting around the mayor or councillor's schedule. For location, the majority of

people suggest the community hall in Kinloch. Some also suggested the beach and the new café when it opens will be good places to meet informally.

**Mangakino-Pouakani Ward:** For best times, a wide range of timings were suggested with some say middle of the day and others saying they work so outside work hours. Many commented that it needs to accommodate those who work – so outside normal working hours would be best. Others who were retired preferred during daytime. For location, most said community halls or library is best. It was also highlighted that moving around the smaller communities are important with positive comments on how this has worked in the past. One comment highlighted that we could go to a farm for the farmers and others suggested café or the local marae.

**Tūrangi-Tongariro Ward:** A wide variety of timings were suggested with many saying during work hours and others saying evenings or weekends. It was suggested that as long as more than 2 weeks' notice is provided. Many suggest moving around the local communities would work such as local community halls, old council offices in Tūrangi, Senior citizen hall. Informal meetings are suggested to take place at local cafes, library, marae such as in Hatepe, Kaupapa based venues, RSA social connection group – however there is mixed opinions with others not wanting the informal setting and would rather they be in a formal location such as offices or community halls. One person suggested digital.

**Taupō East Rural:** For timing of meetings the most popular was outside of work hours such as evening time. A few comments indicated flexible, but this was the minority. Many from outer areas such as Rangitaiki and River Road suggest having meetings in their local halls, however for Wairakei, people suggested at the school hall, and locations in Taupō town such as Council offices, Waiora House and some informal locations such as parks and cafes or Wairakei Resort restaurant.

**Frequency of meetings (question 12):**

The two most popular options were very similar for frequency of meetings with Quarterly being **43%** and every two months being **40%** of respondents. These two options were fairly interchangeable across the district.

**Best methods of sharing outcomes of meetings (question 13):**

When asked how respondents feel that outcomes of meetings would be best shared, the majority of people said they would prefer email (**42%**), followed by social media (**16%**), and copy of formal minutes (**15%**) and council website (**15%**).

## 2.4 Separate submissions by community groups

We received four submissions from community groups separate to the survey, directly to the engagement team (sent to: [Engagement@taupo.govt.nz](mailto:Engagement@taupo.govt.nz)). These were from:

- **Taupo Residents Group**
- **Wairakei Community Group**
- **Motuoapa Residents Association**
- Marlene Johnson on behalf of **Mangakino Central Charitable Trust**
- Stephen Sanderson on behalf of **Whareroa Village Residents Association**
- Pat Kane community rep and also member of **Kinloch Families Trust (KFT)** and **Kinloch Community Association (KCA)**

Below is a summary of that feedback by area. Please read the full submissions attached in Appendix 2.

### **Taupō Ward feedback (excluding Kinloch):**

Feedback from the Taupō Residents Group (TRG) highlighted long-standing frustration that TDC has never established a representative group for the Taupō Ward, despite repeated requests for better communication and more direct access to councillors. Submitters felt that 2026 is the right time to introduce meaningful change by creating regular public meetings every two months, where residents and ratepayers can discuss matters directly with their elected councillors. They suggested that questions and topics be prepared in advance, with a staff member present to record discussions and support follow-up actions. They also expressed the view that there is no need for a Taupō Ward Representative Committee or a Co-Governance Committee, believing that well-run public meetings would provide a more effective and inclusive way for the community to engage with council.

### **Kinloch area feedback:**

The TRG suggested adopting the same regular public-meeting model proposed for the Taupō Ward so that all wards engage with council in a consistent way. While acknowledging that places like Kinloch may have different views, they emphasised that the Mayor and Council should choose one unified representation approach for the whole district — one system that applies equally to all residents and ratepayers.

Previous representative on the Rep Group and member of both Kinloch Families Trust (KFT) and Kinloch Community Association (KCA), suggested a format which he felt would be successful which can be read in full in Appendix 2.

### **Mangakino-Pouakani ward feedback:**

Submission from the Mangakino Central Charitable Trust supports the retaining of the Mangakino-Pouakani Representative Group for strong local representation, community trust and confidence with committee members, effectiveness, community grant policy, principles of local decision making and maintaining a strong local voice, fair and balanced funding outcomes, alignment with community values and tikanga. Preserving local voice and autonomy, ensuring fair and transparent funding decisions, and strengthening community wellbeing are all considered highly important by the local trust.

The TRG suggested adopting the same regular public-meeting model proposed for the Taupō Ward (above) so that all wards engage with council in a consistent way.

### **Tongariro ward feedback:**

The Motuoapa Residents Association expressed strong concern about the continued reduction of community representation within TDC, noting that the Tongariro area has historically had multiple avenues for local voice but now risks being represented by only one elected member. They view this as unfair given Tongariro makes up around a quarter of the wider Taupō electorate and unanimously recommend increasing the number of elected councillors for the region to two in the next triennium. They propose that council representatives meet formally with the Motuoapa Residents Association twice a year to ensure local issues and achievements are heard. While residents appreciate recent council support and improvements in their community, they remain firm in their view that Tongariro is currently under-represented and believe these changes would address their concerns.

The Whareroa Village Residents Association are concerned with the ongoing reduction in community representation including represented members and an elected community board. They suggest allocating more elected representatives onto the Council Board. They also suggest that elected members meet the residents asocial at least three times a year formally.

The Taupō Residents Group (TRG) gave feedback for the Tongariro area, noting that the Tongariro Representative Group (TRG) provides structure, agendas, minutes, and public accountability, and there is genuine effort to engage across the ward. However, concerns were raised about weak governance, strained operational relationships, and a lack of cohesive direction. Submitters also highlighted their confusion and duplication between the two existing groups in the ward: the Tongariro Representative Group the Co-Governance Committee. They felt that having both groups is unnecessary for the Tūrangi–Tongariro Ward. If the TRG cannot improve, they suggested it be rebranded with a clearer purpose or replaced entirely with regular public meetings where local councillors—supported by others on rotation—meet with residents every two months for open discussion, with staff taking notes for follow-up. This model was seen as more inclusive, cost-effective, and better aligned with community needs.

#### **Taupō-East Rural feedback:**

The Wairakei Community Group are concerned that the consultation material provides limited information about the purpose, costs, and benefits of the current Representative Groups or the implications of replacing them with informal, councillor-led forums—particularly the loss of locally appointed members and Māori representation. They note that the Rep group review consultation focuses on meeting logistics rather than the substantive changes to local representation, which they feel conflicts with transparency expectations under the Local Government Act. Given wider national reforms that may reduce community consultation and alter local government structures, they believe local voice is more important than ever and that the review must consider the impacts of disestablishing Māori wards and also the difficulty of reinstating representative groups later. They emphasise the vital democratic role current groups play in providing two-way communication. The timing of the review over the summer break was also seen as limiting participation. The group therefore request rescheduling the review to align with the Electoral Act review later in the year or extending consultation with clearer cost-benefit information and questions about representation. They also propose improvements to existing meetings, including quarterly evening sessions, publicly available agendas and minutes, well-chaired but informal formats, and meetings held in local communities rather than in Taupō, with online options only when necessary.

#### **Other general feedback on Representative Groups and connection with Councillors:**

Taupō Residents Group suggested that public meetings would be better attended if they were informal but still structured, held without large numbers of staff present, and offered at multiple times on the same day (morning, afternoon, and evening) every two months, with flexibility for each ward. They felt that informal and welcoming, direct conversations with elected councillors would demonstrate genuine willingness to listen, keep costs low, and allow one-on-one discussions that could lead to further engagement with local groups.

The TRG also recommends establishing a small committee of two or three elected councillors (Taupō Councillors for Representation- TCR), to coordinate attendance at the proposed public representation meetings. Having a single point of contact would make it easier for residents to engage and ensure the process is well-organised. They emphasised the need for a clear, visible lead — a recognisable face and voice — to support effective communication and deliver the outcomes the community expects.

### **2.5 Other general feedback to consider:**

#### **2.5.1 Social media and website**

Comments and trends on social media for the Rep Group Review topic were captured separately. You can read the information in the file: [Rep Group Review Social Media Info](#).

## 2.6 Themes across different engagement methods

We have analysed themes of data across the various information gathered from different engagement methods – in-person conversations, survey results, community group contacts submissions, and digital.

Across the district, participants expressed a strong desire for improved access to elected members, clearer communication, more timely follow-up, and meeting formats that balance approachability with accountability. Communities consistently highlighted infrastructure, environment, safety, and fair representation as key concerns.

These have been analysed using AI (CoPilot) into themes on Rep Group meetings of formality, timing, location, close the loop, topics of meetings), observing differences and variations across wards (Taupo (excluding Kinloch), Kinloch, Turangi-Tongariro, Mangakino-Pouakani, Taupo-East Rural), and also any other general themes that come through. (Disclaimer: This summary is not meant to replace reading the full comments reports from each source):

### Formality

- Overall preference for less formal or mixed meeting styles, except Turangi-Tongariro and Mangakino-Pouakani which value slightly more formal structures with agendas and minutes.
- Taupo (excluding Kinloch), Kinloch, and Taupo-East Rural lean toward informal forums, small-group hui, and approachable settings.

### Timing

- Evenings are most preferred district-wide but suggest a mix of times , with weekend options helping broaden access.
- Taupo-East Rural and Turangi-Tongariro show strong demand for after-work sessions.
- Kinloch shows a wide spread of availability including afternoons, daytime, evenings, and weekends.

### Location

- Strong theme of “going to where people are”.
- Taupō and Kinloch: cafes, halls, libraries, markets.
- Rural wards: rotating local halls, marae, farms, community hubs.
- Many wards request rotating locations to improve fairness and reach.

### Close the loop

- The most effective universal method is email plus a canonical Council website page containing minutes or a concise written summary.
- Email is the preferred method of receiving updates.
- Strong need for clear, simple notes, action lists, and next steps.
- Preference for recorded meetings or summaries for transparency.

### Topics of meetings

- Infrastructure
- Community Planning (facilities, health, growth)
- Environment
- Safety (roads, public spaces)
- Water management

### General Themes

- Desire for more authentic, regular connection with councillors.
- Varied preferences mean one-size-fits-all will not work.
- Communities want transparency, structure, and accountability while keeping engagement approachable.

### **2.7 Conclusions**

A total of **413** survey submissions were received, four submissions from key contacts on behalf of community groups, and **316** people engaged at events. This showed some interest in the future of Rep Group meetings or more desire to connect with elected members, however this is still only 1.1% of the Taupo District population.

Many themes were present, and it was clear that one size does not fit all with a wide variety of responses across the rohe. It was great to see so many engaged communities. There was a mixed level of formality of meetings with a general trend to wanting less formal meetings as the lowest average was still a '4' from Mangakino which on average shows that people want less formal meetings. Some feedback from direct community groups suggested that meetings where the community can discuss and be involved would be beneficial.

The survey free-text responses highlight a critical need for robust community engagement and representation, particularly for smaller communities. Participants advocate for retaining formal Representative Groups to ensure local voices are heard and to maintain accountability. There is a strong call for improved communication, with suggestions to simplify complex documents and use technology like live streaming to enhance transparency and accessibility. Participants also stress the importance of Māori representation in decision-making processes, urging the council to uphold principles of partnership and equity. Concerns about governance are prevalent, with participants advocating for more frequent and varied public engagement opportunities, including informal settings to reduce intimidation.

Throughout the feedback, strong themes emerged with some variation between areas. It was clear that a one-size approach does not fit all. There was some difference in views from ward to ward but also very different ideas about what will work in each community. Overall, the in-person events allowed us to re-connect far and wide with many of our community for the 2026 New Year – from Taupo town residents and across the rohe to our smaller communities, which enabled good robust discussion.

### **2.8 Engagement next steps:**

- The Engagement Report and Survey summary to be presented to Elected Members to consider in their decision making
- Once final decision is made, close the loop by letting the community know the outcome, including how feedback was incorporated into the decision-making (through TDC communication channels and community contacts worked with during the process).


### **2.9 Document references:**

[Full set of submission data and comments](#)

[Representative Group Review AYT Data 2026.pptx](#)

[Rep Group Review Social Media Info](#)

Appendix 1:



**GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ**  
Taupō District Council

**Have your say**

**It is time to have your say on the  
Taupō District Council Representative Group Committees**

**Tell us about yourself.**

**1. How old are you?**  
Select one option.

☐ Less than 18 years old
 ☐ 18 - 25
 ☐ 26 - 35
 ☐ 36 - 45
 ☐ 46 - 55
 ☐ 56 - 65
 ☐ 66+

**2. Where do you live?**  
Select one option.

☐ Acacia Bay
 ☐ Hatepe
 ☐ Hilltop
 ☐ Kinloch
 ☐ Kokomea/Wharewaka
 ☐ Taupō  
☐ Mangakino
 ☐ Motuoapa
 ☐ Omori/ Pukawa/ Kuratau
 ☐ River Road
 ☐ Tūrangī  
☐ Tokaanu/Tongariro
 ☐ Two Mile Bay
 ☐ Wairakei
 ☐ Waitahanui
 ☐ In another part of NZ

**3. Ethnicity.**  
You can select more than one option.

☐ New Zealand European
 ☐ Māori
 ☐ Samoan
 ☐ Cook Island Māori
 ☐ Tongan
 ☐ Niuean  
☐ Chinese
 ☐ Indian
 ☐ Filipino
 ☐ South African
 ☐ Other

**4. What is your gender?**  
Select one option.

☐ Male
 ☐ Female
 ☐ Another gender
 ☐ Non-binary
 ☐ Prefer not to say

**5. Have you attended one of the representative group meetings in the past (Kinloch, Taupo East Rural, Mangakino Pouakani & Tongariro)?**

☐ Yes - What was your experience?
 ☐ No - Could you share why you haven't attended?

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**6. If you wanted to raise something with the Mayor or councillors, how would you prefer to do it?**  
Select up to two answers.

☐ Email
 ☐ Phone
 ☐ Formal meeting
 ☐ Informal meeting
 ☐ Other

Please share your thoughts below:

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**7. If you were to attend a meeting, would you prefer a (0) formal meeting or something (10) less formal?**

☐ 0
 ☐ 1
 ☐ 2
 ☐ 3
 ☐ 4
 ☐ 5
 ☐ 6
 ☐ 7
 ☐ 8
 ☐ 9
 ☐ 10



**8. What would make it easier for everyone to have good conversations with the Mayor or councillors?**  
Add a comment below. Avoid details about yourself to remain anonymous.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**9. Which topics or projects matter most to you in your community?**  
(Infrastructure/environment/community facilities/local business/safety/youth)  
Add a comment. To remain anonymous, avoid details that could identify you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**10. Where would be the best place for you to meet with the Mayor or councillors?**  
Add a comment. To remain anonymous, avoid details that could identify you.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**11. What day and time works best for you?**  
Add a comment. To remain anonymous, avoid details that could identify you.

\_\_\_\_\_

**12. How often should these opportunities to meet the Mayor or councillors happen?**

☐ Every two months    ☐ Quarterly    ☐ Twice a year

**13. What's the best way for us to share outcomes from these meetings with you?**

☐ Council website    ☐ Social media    ☐ Email    ☐ Antenno app    ☐ Other    ☐ Receive a copy of formal minutes

**14. Any other comments or suggestions?**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Personal details optional.**

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you want to sign up for the weekly council newsletter?**

☐ Yes    ☐ No

Thank you for having your say on the Taupō District Council  
Representative Group Committees!

 **GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ**  
Taupō District Council

Appendix 2: Engagement Content Boards

**Representative Groups 2026 Review**

- Taupō District Council is taking a fresh look at how we connect with our communities and we want your feedback.
- Tell us whether the current format of the Representative Groups works or if you would prefer a more informal meeting.
- We understand that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work. We want these meetings to attract more people and for your voice to be heard.
- Give us your ideas on how you want to connect with your representatives by filling out the survey.

[www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups](http://www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups)

**Representative Groups 2026 Review**

Map of represented areas

Area	Color	Notes
Taupō	Yellow	Also the Group which is part of this review
Taupō East Rural	Light Blue	
Mangakino-Pouākani	Dark Blue	
Tūrangi	Green	Tūrangi Community (Tūrangi co-governance committee, not part of this review)
Kinloch	Purple	
Tongariro	Dark Green	

[www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups](http://www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups)

**Kōrero mai**

Have your say

Tell us how you want to connect with your councillors

[www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups](http://www.taupodc.govt.nz/repgroups)

**Appendix. 2: Full Group Submissions****Taupō Residents Group (TRG)****TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN****WHAT IS THE FUTURE FOR LOCAL FORUMS IN THE TAUPŌ DISTRICT?****SUBMISSION**

One question from TDC is how best can TDC connect with communities across the community.

Members of TRG are located across the district in all Wards so this submission is sectioned separately for each ward.

Prior to the election in 2025 TRG was advocating for change.

One important aspect of change was the need for better communication, dialogue and discussions between/with elected members.

Namely our Councillors and the public they represent.

Ratepayers and residents voted in 2025 for their choices. It is now for the elected Councillors to make the decisions that are the best for ALL voters and other residents in the Taupo district.

Based on reports from TDC staff the current Representative Groups are not working very well. It seems that formal meetings have not been working in the past, for various reasons, as has been indicated by TDC.

- Formal meetings feel rigid.
- Attendance has been low.
- There is a need for more locals to be involved.
- There needs to be real conversations about matters in each ward.
- Meetings need to be more interactive and welcoming.

The TRG Board has met and is now offering the following comments and ideas for consideration. Starting in the south.

**Turangi - Tongariro Ward**

There is now a Tongariro Representative Group, a committee.

It has an agenda, records minutes, and there is a clear level of accountability.

All information relating to this TRG committee is publicly available on the Taupō District Council website. There would appear to be a genuine effort for this committee to meet across the ward and engage with the people in the community, however, there needs to be improvements if it is to have a future beyond this review.

Strong governance, operational relationships and working in harmony to support collective success are some of the weaknesses. If the Committee is failing in that regard it should be rebranded with a new strategic guidance and statement of purpose.

Or disbanded and replaced with a public meeting where the two residents Councillors can be supported by other Councillors on a rotational basis.

A public meeting every two months where matters can be discussed on a one-on-one basis.

Matters to be written and made available for the discussions.

With one staff member making notes/minutes for action by Council if deemed appropriate. Councillors may also be able to offer a possible solution/outcome at these 'informal meetings'.

The fees paid to the 'committee' could then be saved and used in part for the public meeting forums.

Co-governance is not a matter of importance as ALL residents can be included in these meetings.

The Turangi-Tongariro Ward represents almost 25% of the ratepayers of the Taupo District but that does not mean there is a need for TWO representative groups in the ward. If a meeting every two months is not enough, then more meetings can be arranged, to suit the people interest in discussing matters rather than wasting time about unrelated issues. Like fines for parking offences.

Both the Tongariro Representative Group and the 'sister group', the Co-Governance Committee are not needed for the Turangi-Tongariro Ward.

#### Taupo Ward,

TDC has never agreed in the past to set up a representative group within the Taupo Ward.

Many times TDC has ignored requests for better communication with Councillors and many times has failed to help or set up a Group in the Taupo Ward.

2026 is now the time to make a change for the better. A change that allows residents and ratepayers to meet and discuss matters with their elected Councillors.

- TDC can now set up public meetings to be held every two months.
- TDC can ask that matters and questions be prepared and available on the meeting day for discussion with one or more of the elected Councillors.
- TDC can assist with a staff member to record the discussion and help take further action if appropriate. As suggested for the Turangi-Tongariro Ward above.

- There is no need for either a Taupo Ward Representative Committee or Taupo Ward a Co-governance Committee.

#### Maori Ward.

TRG suggests the Maori Ward voters join forces with the Taupo Ward and the Turangi Ward meetings.

The matters raised by Maori Ward voters and residents can then be managed at the same time and at the proposed meetings every two months.

TRG believes the interaction of all Taupo residents is important and this is one opportunity to help and foster understanding of all matters that affect the Taupo District. We all use the same services and expect equal treatment. We all use the roads, water supply, waste management services and the public facilities.

#### Kinloch

TRG suggests the same public meetings be arranged, as for the Taupo Ward.

TDC can be consistent and apply the same consultation meetings for all wards.

TRG respects that the residents of Kinloch may have other ideas but it is the Mayor and Council that need to make the best decision for ALL ratepayers and residents.

One rule for all, one representative system for all.

#### Mangakino- Pouakani and the Taupo East Rural Wards.

All as above. One rule for all, one representative system for all.

#### What would help make residents and ratepayers come to the public meetings?

- The public meetings/forums would be formal but informal without the many staff members clinging to the surrounding walls watching and clearing.
- Times could be set for three sessions on one day every two months.  
Morning, afternoon and evening time slots.  
Subject to change to suit each ward and interest from the public.

- The informal but structured meetings with elected Councillors would show a willingness to listen and understand matters of concern.
- Meeting elected Councillors on an informal basis must be better than not at all.
- Costs will be minimum.
- Wasted time for morning tea, lunch snacks and other worthless niceties will be limited and avoided.
- One-on-one discussions could lead to other meetings for further discussion/meetings with local groups.  
At retirement homes as an example.

#### Taupo Councillors for Representation (TCR)

TRG also suggests that a committee of two or three elected Councillors be set up to liaise and arrange the Councillors that will attend the proposed public representation meetings.

One point of contact will help public get involved with the least of effort and the best of intentions for a good outcome.

There needs to be a face and a voice to get the result that must be expected. Many of the elected Councillors expressed a willingness to participate in public forums during this current term and TRG now expects to see some results.

TRG is here to help.

Councillors were elected to represent all ratepayers and residents of the Taupo District.

#### Conclusion.

It is hoped that the above submission will help TDC make changes that avoid the problems noted. Namely.

- *Formal meetings feel rigid.*
- *Attendance has been low.*
- *There is a need for more locals to be involved.*
- *There needs to be real conversations about matters in each ward.*
- *Meetings need to be more interactive and welcoming.*
- Councillors were elected to represent all ratepayers and residents of the Taupo District.

29 January 2026

**Wairakei Community Group**

Kia Ora,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Representative Groups 2026 Review.

As the Wairakei Community Group in the Taupo East Rural ward we value our relationship with the council and specifically with our council representative Kylie Leonard, Representative Group members, and council's community development team. These relationships remain crucial to the volunteer work we do for the Wairakei Village and the wider Wairakei Community.

The Representative Group Review provides an opportunity to not only look at how council connects and communicates with communities but also consider how local representation and democracy can be strengthened – including participation, transparency and accountability. As part of this we firmly believe that the principles of Te Tiriti of Waitangi should be given effect through the review, in line with the Council's significance and engagement policy. Given the changes to local government legislation proposed by the government, local voice and democracy should be at the forefront of this review.

The consultation webpage

<https://www.taupodc.govt.nz/council/consultation/representative-group-committees-review#toc-link-1> provides limited information on the purpose, and cost and benefits of the current representative groups or the proposed changes. For example, the information provided to the public does not explicitly identify that the proposed informal elected member-led groups would no longer have locally appointed community members, including a place holder for a Māori representative on each, and does not include the consequential impacts of this.

The Council consultation webpage and accompanying questionnaire focus on the formality, timing, and location of the meetings and not the changes in local representation. This could be considered at odds with the transparency principles in the Local Government Act.

As the current government looks to truncate community consultation across a range of legislation and place more responsibility and liability on local councils, including the possibility of disestablishing regional councils, understanding the concerns and voice of the community is more critical for both council officials and elected members. This Representation Group Review should take this context into account along with the impacts on Māori rights and interests with the disestablishment of Māori Wards in Taupo District.

Council officials have indicated at the community consultation day that there will be a review under the Electoral Act at the end of the year and that there will be a further opportunity to revisit what is covered in this Representation Group Review. However, if representation groups are disestablished it may be more difficult to re-establishment them, especially with funding restraints. This wider context should also be part of the considerations of this Representation Group Review.

The representative groups have a distinct role in local democracy to advocate for local interests. Current representation group members provide a critical two-way conversation with both the wider community and council. Representative members talk with their communities through their networks and vice versa, this is done organically and informally, alongside the formal representative group meetings, reaching more of the local community and bringing diverse views to conversations. As councillors cover multiple representative group locations with diverse communities, the representative groups play a critical role in ensuring that each community has a scheduled opportunity to connect with council. The representative groups strongly support the philosophy of community led planning.

Our community has raised that timing of the review over summer break is disappointing and may influence community participation as many people and community groups, like ourselves, prioritise family time and getting children ready for school. As the main audience for this review and the impacts of the review on local democracy, including Māori representation, it is uncertain if council has adequately taken into account the audience for this consultation.

**Given the above context, the Wairakei Community Group submit that:**

**The Representation Group Review be rescheduled to occur alongside the review scheduled under the Electoral Act later in the year and cost and benefits be provided to the public alongside consultation, or,**

**That consultation be extended, accompanied by a cost and benefits and survey that includes questions specifically on the current and proposed changes to representation.**

**In addition, the Wairakei Community Group considers that the following changes would allow better participation in existing local Representation Group meetings:**

- Quarterly evening meetings. This allows those that are working to participate.
- Publicly available set agenda and meeting minutes to provide accountability, transparency, and informed participation. Having an agenda publicly available allows the community to proactively engage and raise support or concerns for activities and decisions.



- Meetings are informal-not follow standing orders but need to be well chaired. Less formal meetings allow better participation from those that may find formality uncomfortable.
- Meetings to be held in person in local representation areas and not Taupo, as they currently are. Having meetings in person creates empathy and are more personable and relatable. This helps build a better relationship of trust and respect between representatives of council and the community. Where a quorum cannot be reached, online meetings could be held but should not be the norm.

Contact on behalf of the Wairakei Community Group submission:

Angela Bell

0274 030013

findyourelvis@gmail.com

**Motuoapa Residents Association**

Motuoapa Residents Association

20<sup>th</sup> January 2026

**Re: How TDC Connects with its Communities**

To whom it may concern,

The Motuoapa Residents Association would like to make the following points regarding councils request for feedback regarding changes to the Representative Group Committees:

- As a community we are concerned with the ongoing reduction in community representation on the TDC. For example, the wider Tongariro region has previously had one elected council representative, a community board representative, an iwi representative sitting on council inclusive of an elected community board to hear and represent local needs.
- This latest initiative by council to remove the Representative Group Committees will further this concerning trend to just one elected member sitting on council to represent the full Tongariro region. This is considered unreasonable and unfair.
- Having said this, the Motuoapa Residents Association which met on the 13th of January to discuss the issue of representation believes the region's needs will be best represented by the following structure:
  - Fair council representation for the Tongariro region. Tongariro consists of approximately 25% of the wider Taupo electorate but is only allocated one council representative. It is therefore the unanimous view of the Motuoapa Residents Association that the Tongariro region be allocated two elected members on council in the next triennium.
  - Secondly, the Residents Association believes that Motuoapa will be better served if council elected representatives met with the Motuoapa Residents Association (formally) twice a year to discuss and hear both the positives and concerns regarding our community.

In conclusion we do really appreciate the work council does for the community. For example, in recent times residents are appreciative of the Pétanque courts, the support we received in establishing the disc golf course and the continued maintenance of our playgrounds, resurfacing of our tennis courts and upkeep of our reserves.

In terms of representation for Tongariro, however, the Motuoapa residents believe our region is significantly under-represented and the above recommendations would satisfy our concerns.

Yours Sincerely

Marlene Hickmott

Secretary

On behalf of Motuoapa Residents Association

Mangakino Central Charitable Trust**Mangakino Central Charitable Trust**

027 326 9845  
 Email: [generalmanager@mangakinocentral.org.nz](mailto:generalmanager@mangakinocentral.org.nz)  
 Charity No.: CC50874

PO Box 23  
 Civic Centre  
 Mangakino 3445

**Council Submission:** Retention of the Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group

**Submitter:** Mangakino Central Charitable Trust

**Subject:** Importance of retaining the existing Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group structure

**Summary:**

This submission supports retaining the current Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group and outlines why maintaining the existing structure is in the best interests of the community, Council, and effective local governance.

**Submission**

We submit that the Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group should be retained in its current form. The existing model has demonstrated effectiveness, strong community trust, and alignment with Council's Community Funding Policy and principles of local decision-making.

**Reasons for Retention****1. Strong local knowledge and representation**

The current representative group is comprised of individuals with deep connections to the Mangakino–Pouakani Ward. Members have lived experience and an understanding of:

- Local priorities and challenges
- The capacity and credibility of local groups
- Historical context behind previous funding decisions

This local knowledge supports informed, fair, and relevant decision-making that cannot easily be replicated by a newly formed or more centralised committee.

**2. Community trust and confidence**

The existing group has established trust with community organisations, volunteers, and residents. Maintaining the current structure ensures:

- Continued confidence in funding decisions
- Transparency and accountability at a local level
- Ongoing engagement from community groups who rely on this funding

Structural change risks undermining confidence and participation, particularly in a small rural community.

**3. Continuity and efficiency**

The representative group has established systems, processes, and institutional knowledge.

Retaining the group:

- Avoids unnecessary disruption
- Reduces the risk of delays in funding distribution
- Ensures continuity for community organisations that rely on timely support

This continuity supports efficient use of Council resources and minimises administrative burden.

**4. Community-led decision-making**

The current model reflects genuine community-led governance. Decisions are made locally, by people accountable to the community they serve. Retention of the group:

- Upholds principles of local democracy
- Ensures Mangakino–Pouakani maintains a strong local voice
- Prevents smaller communities being overshadowed by larger population centres

**5. Fair and balanced funding outcomes**

The existing structure allows for balanced consideration across a wide range of community activities, including sport, culture, youth, and social services. This ensures:

- Smaller groups are not disadvantaged
- Funding decisions reflect diverse community needs
- Equitable outcomes across the ward

**6. Alignment with community values and tikanga**

Decision-making in Mangakino–Pouakani Ward reflects values of whanaungatanga, manaakitanga, and collective responsibility. The current representative group embodies these principles through established relationships and respectful processes.

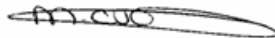
**Conclusion**

The Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group is effective, trusted, and well-aligned with Council objectives for community-led funding distribution. Retaining the group as it is will:

- Preserve local voice and autonomy
- Ensure continuity and efficiency
- Support fair and transparent funding decisions
- Strengthen community wellbeing

We respectfully request that the Taupo District Council retain the Mangakino–Pouakani Representative Group in its current form.

Ngā manaakitanga



Marlene Johnson  
General Manager

**Stephen Sanderson on behalf of Whareroa Village Residents Association**

Whareroa Village Residents Association

9th January 2026

**Re: How TDC Connects with its Communities**

To whom it may concern,

The Whareroa Village Residents Association would like to make the following points regarding councils request for feedback regarding changes to the Representative Group Committees:

- As a community we are concerned with the ongoing reduction in community representation on the TDC. For example, the wider Tongariro region has previously had one elected council representative, a community board representative, an iwi representative sitting on council inclusive of an elected community board to hear and represent local needs.

This latest initiative by council to remove the Representative Group Committees will further this concerning trend to just one elected member sitting on council to represent the full Tongariro region. This is considered unreasonable and unfair.

- Having said this, the Whareroa Village Residents Association which met on the 7th of January to discuss the issue of representation believes the region's needs will be best represented by the following structure:
  - Fair council representation for the Tongariro region. Tongariro consists of approximately 25% of the wider Taupo electorate but is only allocated one council representative. It is therefore the unanimous view of the Whareroa Village Residents that the Tongariro region be allocated two elected members on council in the next triennium.
  - Secondly, the Residents Association believes that Whareroa will be better served if council elected representatives met with the Whareroa Residents Association (formally) three times each year to discuss and hear both the positives and concerns regarding the Village. Should such a structure be established the residents of Whareroa would be comfortable with the removal of Representative Group Committees.

In conclusion we do really appreciate the work council does for the community. For example, in recent times residents are appreciative of the change of contractor at the Whareroa Transfer Station which has made a significant difference to recycling processes. Equally, residents are also very appreciative of the recent water upgrade and council's responsiveness throughout the process.

In terms of representation for Tongariro, however, the Whareroa residents believe our region is significantly under-represented and the above recommendations be given full consideration.

Kind Regards,

Stephen

Stephen Sanderson

Chairman Whareroa Village Residents Assoc

WHAREROA VILLAGE – Lake Taupo's best kept secret!

1A+64 27 472 5963

[www.whareroavillage.co.nz](http://www.whareroavillage.co.nz)

Pat Kane (previous Representative on Rep Group and member of KCA and KFT).

#### Kinloch TDC connection Suggestions

Name: Kinloch Forum

Frequency: Every two months

Notice: TDC notices, Kinloch Families, KCA Facebook pages and emails

Format: Set start and finish time (say 7pm – 8.30pm)  
 Chaired by a Councillor (possibly but not necessarily the same person each time)  
 Minutes taken by Claire who will follow up on issues and report back at next meeting

Participants: TDC Councillor and Liaison person (Claire)  
 Kinloch public – individuals only, no group representation  
 Invited senior TDC officer(s) if appropriate for particular issues

Agenda: Apologies  
 Minutes and Claire's report on actions  
 Other Matters arising  
 Invitation for other topics to be discussed  
 Topics raised from the floor as above  
 Actions going forward

Protocols: Courteous and respectful behaviour at all times  
 Chair rules

Just my brief personal ideas

Pat Kane - 23 January 2026



## Rep Group Review 2026 Survey Data & Insights




TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL

# PERFORMANCE REPORT

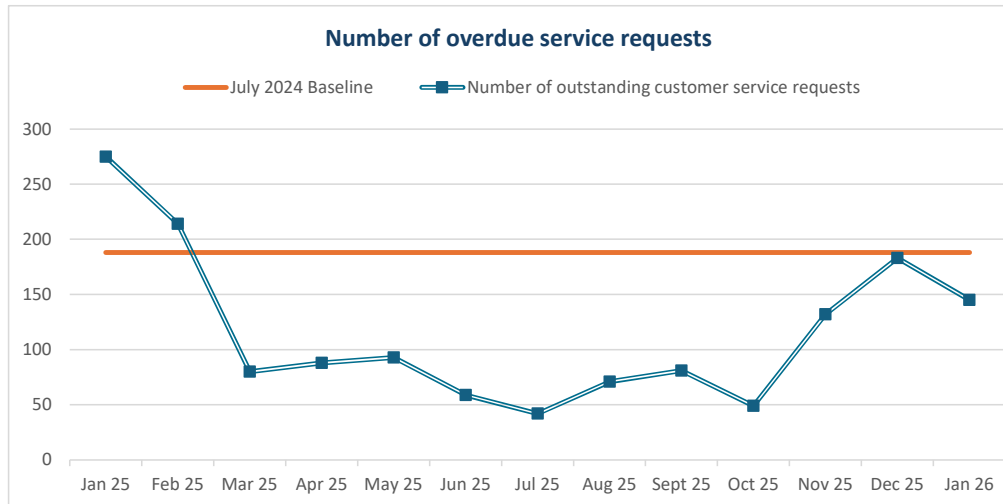
January 2026



CHIEF EXECUTIVE - Julie Gardyne		
Overview	Government policy update	Stakeholder relationships
<p>Across the organisation, teams have continued to make strong progress on our core work programmes through the busy summer period. I would particularly like to thank those teams that worked through the Christmas and New Year period making sure that our visitors enjoyed their time in Taupō, our facilities remained open, and core services functioned to meet the additional demand.</p> <p>Reports indicate that summer trading was generally stable, led by hospitality and accommodation and supported by strong visitor numbers and major events.</p>	<p>It has been an exceptionally busy start of the year in response to the government's reform programme for local government. Submissions have been prepared or are in the process of being finalised on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Emergency Management Bill (via Waikato Civil Defence and Emergency Management)</li> <li>- Rates Target Model (Rates capping)</li> <li>- Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill</li> <li>- Simplifying Local Government</li> <li>- Going for Growth (Development Levies).</li> </ul> <p>I acknowledge the mayor, elected members and staff for continuing to engage within the local government sector, and with Central Government directly to ensure that we advocate that potential legislative changes reflect the needs and aspirations of the Taupō District.</p> <p>Looking ahead, if these proposals, bills and changes proceed, on top of the local waters done well measures already in place, there is substantial work and cost to implement these changes. Staff are in the process of preparing draft Annual Plan budgets for 2025/26 for a workshop with the councillors in late February. I expect that the information presented to Council will highlight some of the unavoidable costs driven by these changes. For example, we expect to incur approximately \$200,000 in costs from Commerce Commission levies for economic regulation on our waters services activities.</p>	<p>Over January, we undertook extensive engagement as part of the representative group review. Across the rohe, more than 21 face-to-face sessions were held, attended by approximately 316 community members. We also received over 413 submissions, demonstrating strong public interest in working closely with our elected members. Once all the feedback has been collated and analysed, a report will be presented to Council at the end of February.</p>
Operating efficiency and improvements		
<p>Council's internal (ELT) business plan outlines our core portfolio programmes for 2025/2026 financial year, highlighting a heavy schedule of non-business-as-usual projects, including major initiatives such as capital delivery (\$70 million), resource consent processes, long-term planning for water services, legislative reforms, and complex cross-council strategic reviews. Recurring activities span infrastructure upgrades, regulatory compliance, health and safety frameworks, and core financial strategies.</p>		<p><b>ELT Business Plan; 44 activities</b></p>  <p>■ Achieved ■ On Track ■ Off Track</p>

## PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS - Hadley Tattle

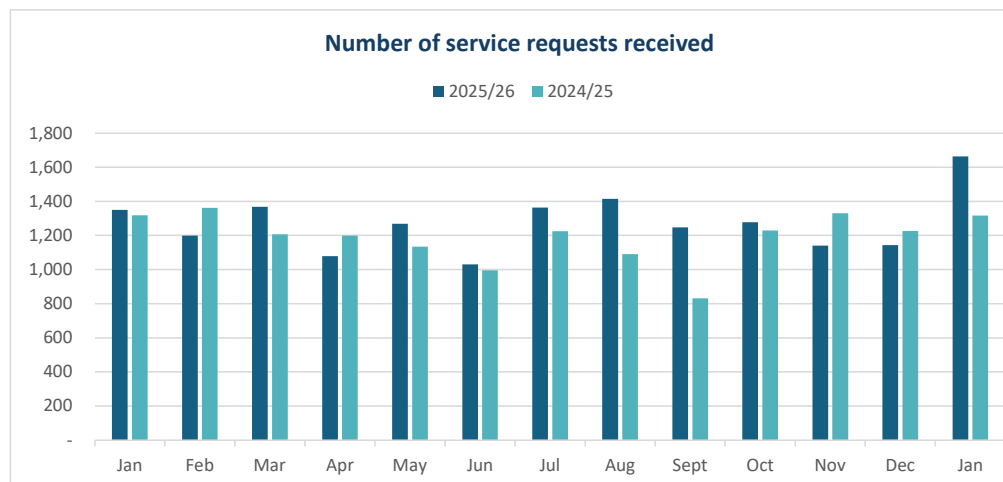
### Customer focus



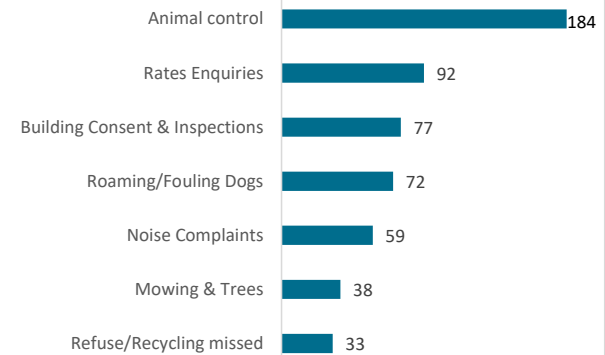
### 3560 calls received by customer services

### 77% of calls answered within 40 secs

December and January saw a pivot in customer enquiries, with visitor numbers increasing over the peak summer period. Of particular note is the fact that December 2025 call volume was only 5.6% lower than December 2024, despite the World Ironman 70.3 Championships occurring in Taupō in December 2024. Increased visitor numbers were further reflected in average 8.3% increase in customers accessing our district-wide customer and visitor information centres through the month of December. Service requests also saw the usual spike that occurs annually over the holiday period, however the overdue requests remained below the baseline. Animal control continued to be our top service request, followed by rates enquiries.



### Service request type



## Community engagement and communications

3 campaigns

160,316 people engaged in campaigns in November

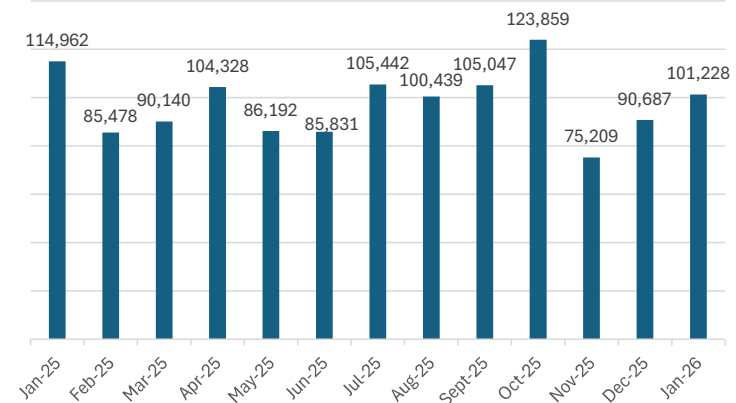
Last quarter Council launched or continued the following campaigns / awareness:

**Representative Group review** - We went out to ask the community whether the current representative group meeting structure works with them or whether they would prefer something different, such as informal sessions where they can connect directly with elected members. This was supported by the community engagement team who put in a lot of mahi over the summer holiday season and into January, running 21 separate engagement events over nearly six weeks.

**Big Bang fireworks and New Year events** - The Le Currents festival and council's Big Bang and Mini Bang fireworks events got a huge amount of attention with people anxious to know whether the fireworks would go ahead. This is an eagerly-anticipated annual event which generated almost entirely positive feedback from both locals and visitors with many thanking Council for putting on a safe, free, family-friendly display.

**River safety** - This is an annual campaign we run in conjunction with the Lake Taupō Harbourmaster and Police. This year's featured a fresh video and updated key messages which got a good reception and plenty of views on social media.

Web page hits



## Iwi partnerships and initiatives

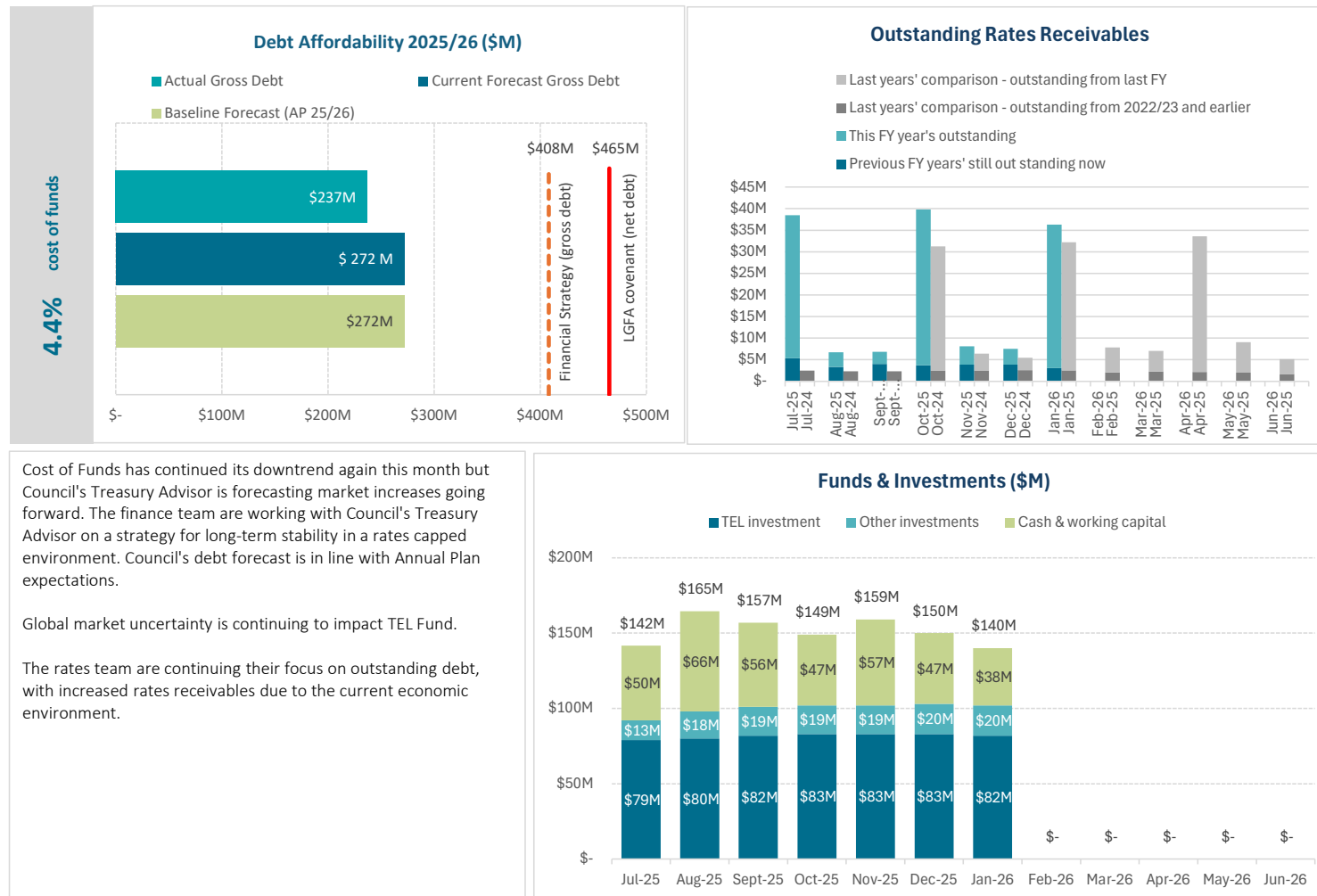
Continuing support was provided for meetings and hui across December and January however this was in a reduced manner given the holiday period.

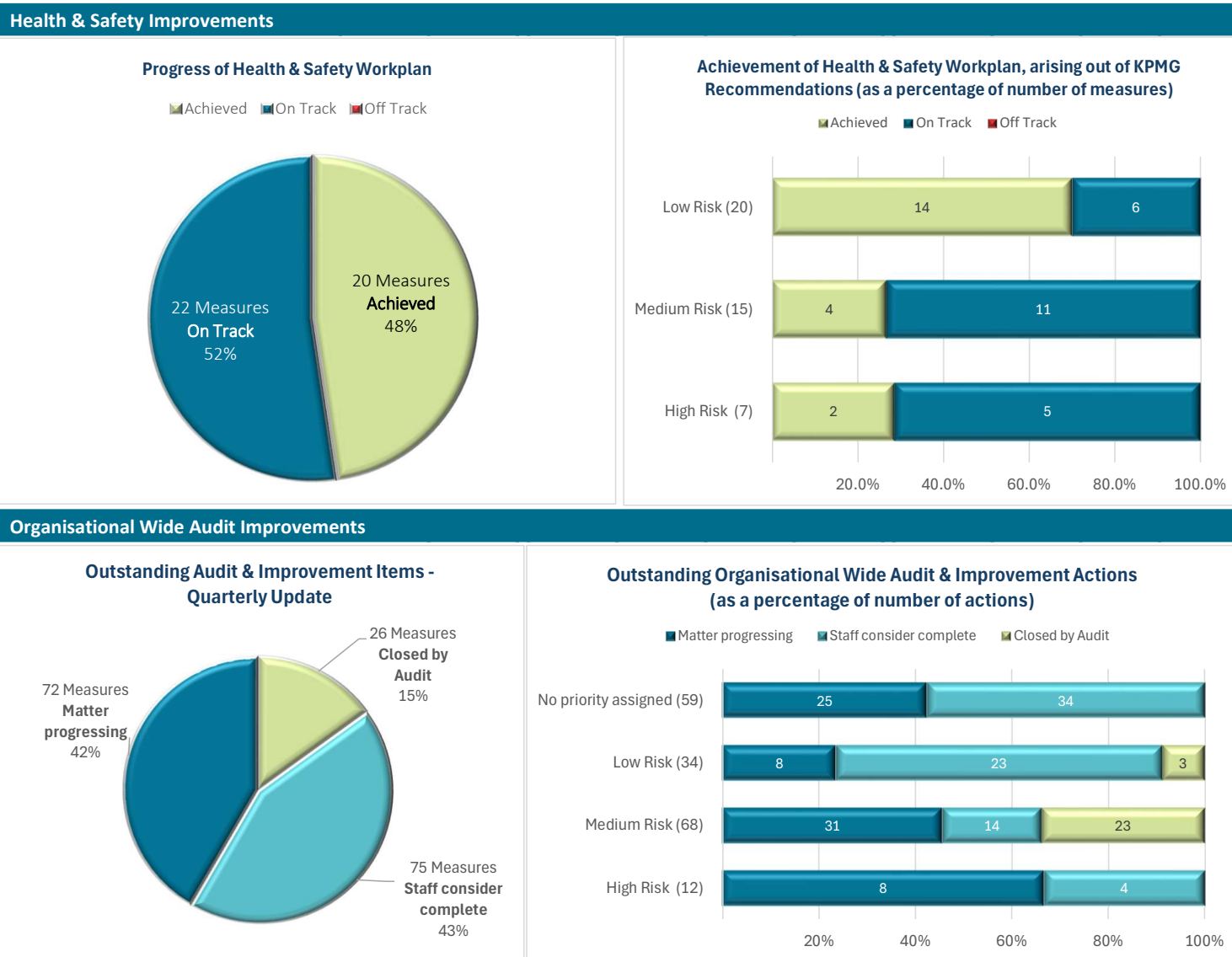
We have held a Broadlands Road landfill consent hui with the hapū representatives. We've also had a hui with representatives from the adjoining landowning trusts, and they confirmed they will be involved once the consent is lodged.

We are continuing to support the engagement for the district stormwater discharge consent mahi. We have also confirmed engagement activities for the upcoming month across various projects including the landfill consent and lakeside erosion.

## ORGANISATION PERFORMANCE - Sarah Matthews

### Financial Strategy





January 2026 \* PERFORMANCE REPORT \* 2 | 3

### Council Property

**Crown Road Development:** Sales have progressed further, with a good amount of interest on the remaining lots. Council teams have made good progress on the title acquisition, with titles expected imminently.

**East Urban Lands:** The Oroko Rise Consortium have had positive sales on both affordable lots and market homes. Construction is still on track to start first quarter 2026. Stage 1B physical civil work has commenced, quality is good, and tracking to programme.

**Leases and licences:** The centralisation of leases and licences is now live and operational, with all data inputted into the system. Next stages for this project are completing the policy and providing data and information to Elected Members during key processes (grants and lease processes).

**Great Lake Centre:** Physical works on the refurbishment project are well underway and progressing to programme. The project team has done an excellent job maintaining momentum and managing delivery, with completion expected in mid to late March.

### Digital Solutions

The Digital Solutions team progressed cybersecurity improvements and training this work to strengthen governance, align Council with national frameworks, and sets a clear, prioritised programme to improve threat detection, incident response, and protection of critical systems and information.

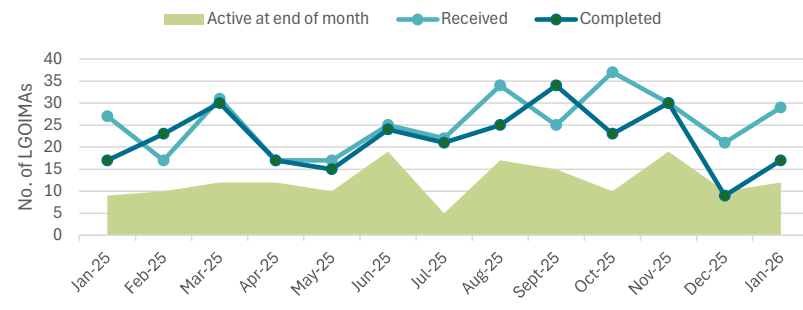
November saw the successful implementation of the new Customer Requests Management and Leases and Licences systems, which are now embedded into day-to-day staff operations. Following this milestone, the project team has transitioned into the implementation of the new Building Consent and wider regulatory systems. Work is ongoing across the team and the wider business to complete multiple system upgrades, including preparation and testing for the annual TechnologyOne upgrade scheduled for February.

### Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) requests

**99% of LGOIMAs processed within 20 days - YTD**      **Target is 99%**

During Dec 2025/ Jan 2026, Council received a steady number of LGOIMA, including three related requests from the New Zealand Taxpayers' Union associated with its 2026 Ratepayers' Report. While the Christmas and New Year holiday period influenced statutory response timeframes, requests continued to be actively coordinated and managed in accordance with LGOIMA requirements.

#### Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act (LGOIMA) requests



COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES - Tony Hale

Three Waters

Monthly dry weather overflow

Month	Monthly weather overflow	Cumulative overflow - YTD	End of FY target
Jan-25	0.1	0.8	2.8
Feb-25	0.1	0.9	2.8
Mar-25	0.1	1.0	2.8
Apr-25	0.1	1.1	2.8
May-25	0.2	1.2	2.8
Jun-25	0.1	1.3	2.8
Jul-25	0.1	0.8	2.8
Aug-25	0.1	0.9	2.8
Sept-25	0.1	1.0	2.8
Oct-25	0.2	1.1	2.8
Nov-25	0.1	1.2	2.8
Dec-25	0.1	1.3	2.8
Jan-26	0.1	1.4	2.8

1

notifications to Taumata Arowai of risk to drinking water quality. Target is Nil. 1. Monthly arsenic test results exceeded compliance limits in Centennial Drive, Hatepe, Motuoapa and Omori. Arsenic has always been present in these water supplies due to geothermal activity. The test results continue to be stable and arsenic removal is included in the treatment plant upgrades that are underway. Kinloch is now operating well within the compliance limits following the upgrade of the water treatment plant.

0

moderate or significant resource consent non-compliances (take & discharge) with an actual or potential adverse health or environmental effect. Target is Nil.

- Water usage over the summer months has remained below water treatment plant capacity, with no restrictions being required.

- Construction of the new Omori Water Treatment Plant is nearing completion, with the plant now in the commissioning phase. Tauhara Reservoir construction is now complete and is supplying water to Wharewaka.

- Implementation of the Water Services Delivery Plan is underway. Progress updates against the plan will be provided quarterly via the Water Services Committee.

- The new Wastewater Standards were released in December 2025. The standards are currently in part open to interpretation and additional clarity is being sought. The standards have implications for wastewater discharge to land and these changes are currently being assessed, along with other drivers, such as growth.

- Resource consent renewals continue for the district wide stormwater discharge, Tūrangi Water Take and Tūrangi Wastewater Discharge. A key component is engagement with iwi, hapū and other stakeholders.

- Improvement in the delivery of wastewater network management continues, with an increased focus on preventative maintenance and utilisation of key data to inform the programme. The aim of the improvement programme is the reduction of wastewater overflows.

Waste Management

7,127 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill - YTD

30% of waste stream diverted from landfill - YTD

50% target diverted from landfill - by 2034

- The team held successful stationery revive events across the district in Taupō, Tūrangi and Mangakino with over 6,000 items donated.

- Work continues on the Broadlands Road landfill resource consent renewal.

January 2026 \* PERFORMANCE REPORT \* 1 | 2

Item 5.6- Attachment 1

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## Transport

**2.0** 3.8km rehabilitation target

**13.0** 28km reseal target

**181** pothole repairs/month

**\$48,121** emergency dispatches\*\*

- Emergency dispatches encompass all weather related incidents such as slips and fallen trees, not solely traffic management support for emergency services. Although call outs from Fire and Emergency New Zealand and Police have declined significantly, the surge in recurring severe weather events has been substantial.
- New Zealand Transport Agency has approved additional operational funding of \$750,000 in the current financial year.
- Broadlands Road rehabilitation and widening is progressing well and the team is working with Ironman event organisers to minimise disruption as much as possible. Napier Road retaining wall for footpath project commenced in January with road closures in place for three to four weeks. Kiddle Drive indented bus stops have been completed with signs and markings, allowing busses to pull off the road safely. Shared path from Tongariro to Norman Smith Street project will start in February. Titiraupenga Street and Roberts Street intersection improvement works will start following the Ironman.

## Events and Venues

- A wide range of events were delivered across the rohe in December and January. The Events and Venues team delivered the New Year's Eve celebrations, featuring two fireworks displays held at 9:30pm and midnight. The fireworks used were those retained in storage from the postponed 2024/25 event.
- Through the Event Sponsorship Fund, the council provided financial support to five events during this period: Try Off Road and New Year's Eve in December, and the Australasian Open Disc Golf Championships, Epic Swim – Ocean Swim Series, and Taupō Summer Concert in January.
- Additional district-wide events delivered in December included the return of the Taupō Summer Carnival (Mahon's Amusements), the Mangakino Summer Concert, Le Currents, and Taupō Cup Race Day. January also featured a strong and diverse events calendar, including the Giltrap Group Taupō Historic Grand Prix, the Amazing Dinosaur Discovery, Wake NZ Junior Wake Festival 2026, Kinstock, Indoor Hockey Nationals in the Taupō Events Centre and Market Central's return of Dinner by the Lake.
- The Great Lake Centre has been closed for the month of January for renovations, limiting the number of events.

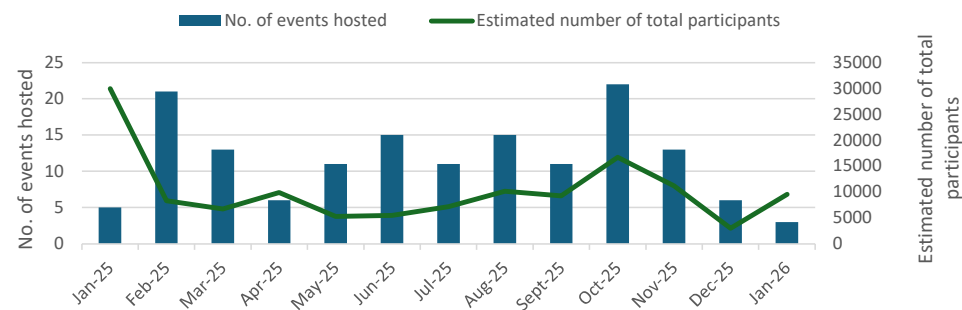
*Note: Events not supported by Council typically don't provide data, and reporting from supported events can vary in detail and consistency each month due to contract timing*

## Donations, grants and sponsorship fund

**\$235,931** of **\$488,000**  
donations, grants & sponsorship fund invested to date  
**\$2,287,318** estimated economic return - YTD  
**869%** return on investment - YTD

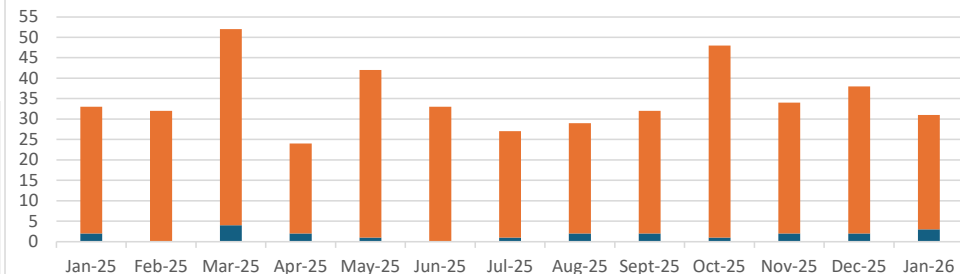
### Monthly events hosted by council venues

(not including regular sports users, meetings or internal bookings)



### Events held in the district

■ No. of events supported by council ■ No. of events held in district (including council supported)





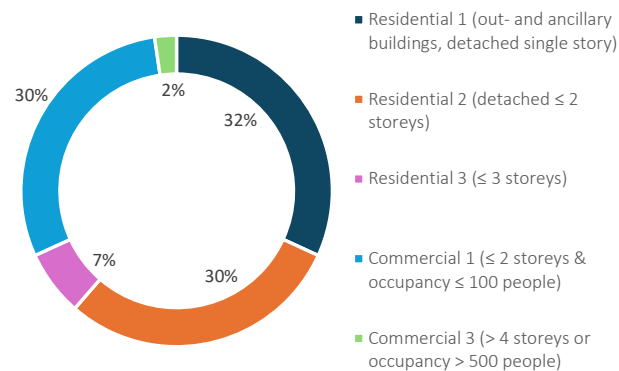
## STRATEGY AND ENVIRONMENT - Warrick Zander

### Policy

- The Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill were reviewed, and a draft submission was approved by Council on 5 February.
- The team reviewed Central Government proposals in relation to a new development levies system to replace development contributions, providing technical feedback to the government.
- Reviewed government proposals for a rates capping regime and prepared a draft submission that was submitted by the mayor.
- The team undertook preparations to notify changes to the District Plan in relation to designations, Māori Purpose Zone and minor corrections. Notification is planned for late February.
- Work with Te Kotahitanga and Waikato Regional Council staff recommenced on preparing an implementation plan for Te Kaupapa Kaitiaki. This is expected to be considered by governance in April.
- Prepared information for the Long-term Plan workshop series with elected members in February. The work also continued on the preparation of the Annual Plan 2026-27, with Council workshop scheduled for 5 February.

### Environmental Services

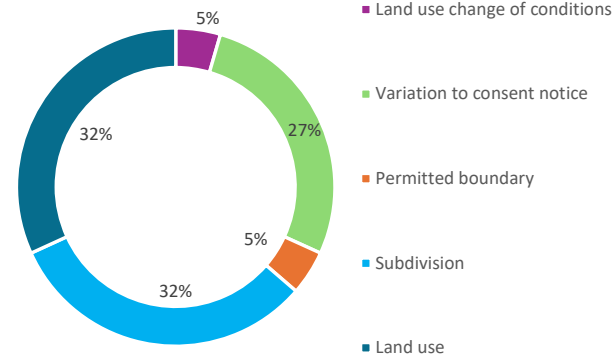
#### Types of building consents granted



93% of building consents completed within statutory timeframes - this month

29 building consent applications received - this month

#### Types of resource consents granted



100% of resource consents completed within statutory timeframes - this month

27 resource consent applications received - this month

- Animal compliance saw a reduction in dog attacks over the Christmas and New Year period and successfully performed a large seizure with the help of the Police. The team supported a successful prosecution resulting in fines, reparations and a destruction order for the dog. As at 5 February 2026, the district has 6,985 registered dogs.
- Summer events, Le Currents and the Summer Concert, ran largely to expectation, with no major alcohol-management issues and noise levels generally compliant.
- Recruitment and the volume of legislative change remain pressure points, particularly with high enquiry levels following the 15 January granny-flat announcement.
- January was unusually busy, with challenging customer interactions and some negative social-media commentary directed at staff. The teams have maintained service levels while managing business as usual, annual leave and long-weekend impacts.
- Planning for the transition to ObjectiveBuild is progressing well, and staff are enthusiastic about the benefits.
- Three building consent applications went over the statutory 20 working days.

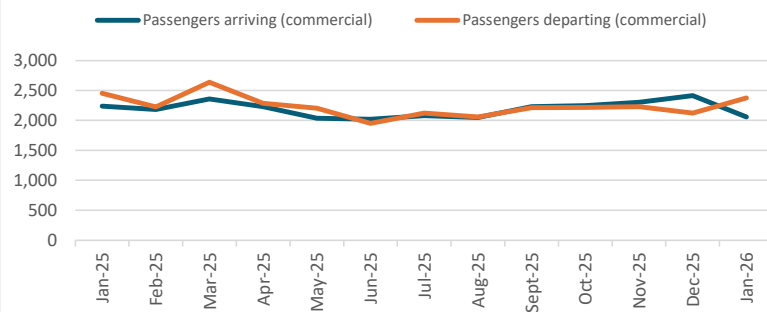
## Parks and Reserves

- The weather once again had the biggest impact on the team with higher than average rainfall and temperatures through December and into the start of January, creating perfect conditions for grass and weed growth. New Year was quite a stormy period around the district with a number of trees either badly damaged or failing. The clean up continued through January and some planned maintenance had to be delayed.
- The wet weather also made for near-maximum lake levels and coupled with high winds from the westerly quarter caused some erosion problems at Hatepe prior to Christmas. Early in the new year the weather pattern changed with winds from an easterly quarter causing considerable damage at Kuratau.
- Litter and fly tipping has also been worse than usual this holiday period with behaviours at Hipapatua being particularly problematic.

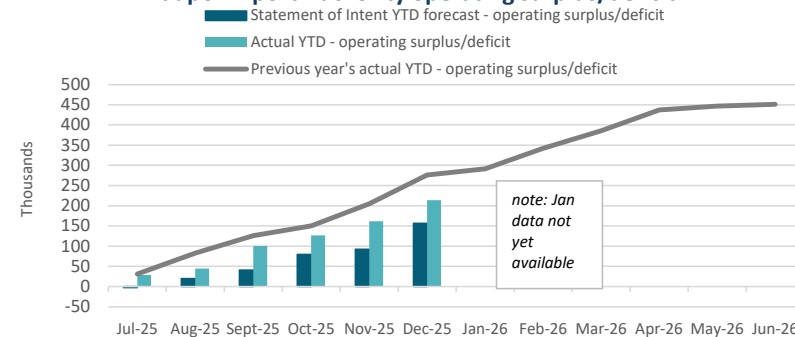
## Taupō Airport


- Half-year financial results for period ended 31 December 2025 are looking good. The revenue is ahead of budget by almost ten percent but the expenses are slightly above budget by 1.5 percent due to unplanned maintenance issues.
- Air New Zealand utilised Taupō as a stopover for their next generation electric aircraft as it made its way south to Wellington in December. It was a great opportunity for photos and media release.
- December and January saw an influx of private jet charters with at times three aircrafts parked on the apron.
- Passenger numbers are still flat despite good Air New Zealand load factors. Air New Zealand is removing one return flight a week (Sunday evening) for the winter season which could cause issues as this is normally a popular connection to Auckland.
- Airport management continue to pursue the possibility of a Taupō – Wellington sector. This may be strengthened with the government proposing financial support for the second-tier airlines.
- Weather issues caused problems over the holiday period with trees being uprooted near the car park entrance due to strong winds.
- The agreed leasing arrangement for the car park equipment is costing Taupō Airport Authority far more than envisaged with damaged or faulty kit having to be replaced. This is affecting operational costs and decreasing any return on the investment.
- The team is preparing a draft Statement of Intent for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2029.
- Early 2026 will see a large number of airport ground leases due for renewal with valuations currently being carried out.
- Submission has been prepared in conjunction with the Waikato Civil Defence Emergency Management Group to include Taupō Airport as an essential infrastructure provider in the Emergency Management Bill (No 2).
- The team is continuing to work with Airways on a new navigation aid which is due to be installed mid-2026.


### Arriving & departing passengers



### Taupō Airport Authority operating surplus/deficit




<div><div>GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ Taupō District Council</div><div>PORTFOLIO UPDATE</div></div>								
Activity Area	OVERALL	TIME	COST	SCOPE	KEY UPDATES	UPCOMING MILESTONES	% COMPLETE (Life Budget)	LIFE BUDGET
3W All								
<b>SCADA Upgrade</b> Programme of upgrades to convert legacy 3W network SCADA control systems technology to FTView.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Dates planned for first three sites in Feb. Lochridge water pumpstation on 16th Feb. Locheagles water pumpstation and reservior 25th Feb. Remaining Whakaroa sites to be planned and installed during March.	Completion of Kinloch sites by end of Feb 26.	<div></div> 89%	\$4.6M
<b>Water Services Delivery Plan Implementation</b> Programme of work required to comply with central government reform Local Water Done Well.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Detailed planning for implementation is progressing well.	Initial water services committee meeting in March.	<div></div> 87%	\$1.2M
Events & Venues								
<b>Owen Delany Park upgrade</b> A masterplan design and contruction to upgrade Owen Delany park. The main focus being to address the current seismic ratings of the grandstand, changing rooms, clubroom/function space and the lighting, PA system and scoreboards for Field 1. The aim is to upgrade and futureproof this facility, to host larger events and to take the pressure off other local sports and rec facilities.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	The design for the grandstand / clubroom has moved from concept design to detailed design.	The blockwork for the new changing rooms to be complete.	<div></div> 57%	\$9.9M
<b>Tūrangitukua Park (te Aonini carpark seal)</b> Extend carpark seal over grassed area and install additional drainage to mitigate flood risks from stormwater discharge. Will require engagement to find a solution which avoids tapu land.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Wrapping up final items.	Completion and final payments.	<div></div> 35%	\$0.4M
Investments								
<b>204 Crown Road - subdivision earthworks &amp; civil</b> Development of 31 hectares of land along SH1, focusing on earthworks and civil works to facilitate the sale of lots and generate revenue.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	223 of 224 conditions have been approved, confirming that almost all subdivision requirements have been met. We are now completing the Land Transfer (LT) Plan and final legal steps. Half of the lots are already sold, subject to title issue.	Secure Titles. Sales & marketing ongoing.	<div></div> 95%	\$11.0M
<b>EUL Stage 1 Lot 20 - Earthworks &amp; Civil.</b> Provide affordable lots for medium to high density dwellings to eligible purchasers and renters, supporting both affordable housing and revenue generation.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Stage 1a (62 lots) on the market. Pleasing uptake to date. Finalising Land Transfer (LT Plan) and legal matters. Stage 1b (54 lots) civil works underway, expected to be completed in October.	Secure Titles for 1a. Sales & marketing ongoing. Continue with civil works programme for 1b with installation of underground services / utilities being the current focus.	<div></div> 86%	\$11.9M
Parks & Reserves								
<b>Erosion Control - Kuratau</b> Mitigate effects of lakeshore erosion at Kuratau foreshore.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Repairing storm damage along foreshore, beach nourishment and repairing end effects on current erosion control structures (rock revetment and rock backstop wall). No progress on resource consent, it is subject to Tūwharetoa Māori Trust Board approval. The Trust Board are requesting further engagement with hapū.	Talk with Iwi co-gov about further contacts to engage with on erosion issue & solution. Promotion of further hui with hapū and Māori landholders in the Omori/Kuratau area.	<div></div> 95%	\$0.8M
<b>Erosion Control - Tapuaeharuru Bay</b> Mitigate effects of lakeshore erosion in Tapuaeharuru Bay.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Continuing to monitor changes in cliffs/erosion progression.	Investigation of & report on drainage/water flows through TTCT, identify potential impacts on how and where cliff erosion is occurring, propose potential solutions to manage/mitigate.	<div></div> 79%	\$0.2M
<b>Mangakino Lakefront Upgrade Project</b> This project will combine a number of existing LTP Mangakino redevelopment projects/renewals into a coherent upgrade project for the Lakefront. The aim will be to futureproof use of the area. Includes Shared Path Mangakino.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Work is underway to refine the final design, assess boat ramp dredging and reclamation options, and progress LINZ's revision of the draft agreement for signing. LINZ revisiting and revising draft agreement, should be provided in February.	The revised agreement to be signed, LINZ to undertake a review of the design, and engagement to be carried out to develop cultural stories for the playground.	<div></div> 14%	\$1.7M
Solid Waste								
<b>Broadlands Road Consent Programme</b> Renewal of Broadlands Road Landfill Consent which expires in 2027.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	A draft Consent Application document is ready for review (excluding the cultural impact assessment component at this stage) and has been sent to Waikato Regional Council for discussion. Steering and Working Groups meet in February to continue progress. Timing is imperative as the current landfill consent expires at the end of 2027, as well as the available volume for disposal. Ongoing engagement will assist with the requirements of a new consent application submission and the path required for this process.	Waikato Regional Council (WRC) will review and process the Closed Consent Application for Stage 1 and provide draft consent application feedback. Stage 1 will then be handed over, with ongoing engagement continuing with hapū and neighbouring landowners. Soil sampling and gas testing will also be undertaken to provide assurance.	<div></div> 108%	\$0.3M

<div><div>GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ Taupō District Council</div><div>PORTFOLIO UPDATE</div></div>								
Activity Area	OVERALL	TIME	COST	SCOPE	KEY UPDATES	UPCOMING MILESTONES	% COMPLETE (Life Budget)	LIFE BUDGET
<b>Stormwater</b>								
<b>Stormwater Discharge Consents Renewal</b> District wide Stormwater consent expires June 2027, a significant amount of work will be required to renew this consent.	▲	●	▲	●	Field visits in December to validate initial desktop findings. Some concerns with amount of remaining budget for further engagement, will need to be closely managed.	Further consultation with iwi/hapū and other stakeholders.	61%	\$0.8M
<b>Support services</b>								
<b>Tūrangi Master Plan</b> Development of a strategic document that will set a vision for Tūrangi's urban area over the next 30+ years.	▲	▲	●	▼	Working Group met to discuss project brief.	Sign off of project brief.	0%	\$0.2M
<b>Transport</b>								
<b>Omori / Kuratau Slip</b> Repairs to slip on Omori road required including retaining wall structure.	▲	▲	▲	▼	Project is still in the design phase, to be provided by WSP 6th Feb 2026. Communication plan put together, stakeholder engagement has been made with immediate impacted residents.	Completion of design phase, additional funding sought, will progress to procurement and communications team once additional funding is confirmed.	0%	\$0.7M
<b>Roundabouts - Taharepa/Crown &amp; Tauhara/AC Baths</b>								
Improve safety at two key intersections with installation of roundabouts, crossing points, signage and markings.	●	●	●	●	Roundabouts Post Construction Safety Audits are complete.	Start of road repairs and reseal on Crown/Taharepa Roads to start in late February.	80%	\$2.0M
<b>Wastewater</b>								
<b>Taupō WW Control gates bridge buffer storage tanks</b> To enable continued growth in the Nukuhau area and increase resiliency to the control gates bridge pipe, we will install buffer tanks and pump station at Control Gates bridge to manage peak flows.	●	▼	●	●	Designs and tender documentation are 95% completed. They are currently under final review. Development of procurement plan completed.	Stakeholder engagement meeting arranged to finalise specific monitoring and cultural requirements. Procurement plan submitted for approval. Tender to market this month.	20%	\$0.8M
<b>Turangi WW Consent</b> Renewal of Tūrangi Wastewater discharge consent	▲	▲	●	▲	No progress on engagement. Refining cost estimates for wetland and rehabilitation project for upcoming LTP.		32%	\$0.2M
<b>Wastewater Taupō Wastewater Treatment Plant Programme</b> Programme of works to increase capacity and improve treatment at Taupō Wastewater Treatment Plant, including installation of a third primary clarifier, pump station upgrades, and new processes to increase nitrogen removal at the plant.	◆	◆	▲	◆	Revised scoping of short-term works has been completed, order has been placed to develop contract documentation to implement Inlet Works, Bypass Pump Station & Seismic Works. Long-term works (Primary Clarifier, side-stream solids filtrate) are still on hold pending WWTP Strategic Review (considering new WW standards)	Amendment of procurement plan and submission for approval . Review contract documentation and verify costs submitted by principal contractor with 3rd party consultant. Issue contract.	32%	\$2.0M

<div><div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div><div></div><div></div></div></div><div><div>GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ</div><div>Taupō District Council</div></div></div><div>PORTFOLIO UPDATE</div></div>								
Activity Area	OVERALL	TIME	COST	SCOPE	KEY UPDATES	UPCOMING MILESTONES	% COMPLETE (Life Budget)	LIFE BUDGET
Water								
<b>Centennial - Treatment Compliance Upgrade</b> Pump station and pipeline from Taupō scheme to Centennial and reservoir upgrade and renewal at Centennial to enable safe and compliant water to be provided to customers on the Centennial scheme.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Continuing to work through design stages of new pumpstation and pipeline. Aiming to begin tender process in March 26.	Tender released to market.	<div></div> 31%	\$2.6M
<b>District - Universal Smart Water Metering</b> Address high water usage throughout the district through the installation of water meters on all water connections to enable planned growth, reduce wastage and operational costs.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Project manager appointed and initial planning underway. Concept offering received for replacement of zone metering communications (currently 3G) for consideration as part of project plan.	Revised procurement plan approved. Tender out to market.	<div></div> 20%	\$1.0M
<b>DWSNZ Drinking Water Membrane Plant Upgrades</b> Construction of 4 new membrane water treatment plants at Hatepe, Kinloch, Motuoapa and Omori, to enable compliance and safe water for the community.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	The overall programme of works is going well. Motuoapa requires additional funds to complete which has been signalled in the Annual Plan process. Kinloch – Complete. Omori – Commissioning underway. Expecting practical completion in Feb 2026. Motuoapa – Building structure complete, mechanical install underway. Hatepe – Working through additional geotech requirements.	Kinloch – minor defect closeout. Omori – Expecting practical completion in Feb 2026. Motuoapa – Civil works to be completed in late March, Mech and Elec install underway. Hatepe – Completion of concept geotech bund structure.	<div></div> 88%	\$40.5M
<b>Kinloch Low Zone Reservoir</b> Construction of new reservoir and pipelines to support growth and resilience in Kinloch community.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Council approved the reserve reclassification to Local Utility at the December meeting.	LT survey, topographic survey, and geotechnical investigation.	<div></div> 27%	\$0.8M
<b>Tauhara Ridge Reservoir &amp; Airport Connection</b> Construction of new reservoir, rising main and pipelines to enable EUL growth and improved fire flows at the airport.	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	<div></div>	Practical completion of reservoir achieved. Reservoir now servicing Wharewaka. Pump station electrical upgrade cut over planned for Feb 26.	Completion of electrical upgrade.	<div></div> 97%	\$4.2M

KEY			
<div></div>	Low Risk	<div></div>	Risk Decreased (Amber/Red to Green)
<div></div>	Medium Risk	<div></div>	Risk Decreased (Red to Amber)
<div></div>	High Risk	<div></div>	Risk Increased (Green to Amber)
<div></div>	On Hold (waiting LTP)	<div></div>	Risk Increased (Amber/Green to Red)
<div><div>89%</div></div>	Almost Complete	<div><div>\$1.0M</div></div>	Smaller Value Project
<div><div>12%</div></div>	Low Spend to Date	<div><div>\$8.5M</div></div>	High Value Project
% Complete = \$ Spend to Date / Life Budget		\$ Life Budget	



 **GREAT LAKE TAUPŌ**  
Taupo District Council

# PORTFOLIO UPDATE



Tauhara Ridge Reservoir



OD Park foundation



Turangitukua carpark



Hickling Park changing rooms



Norman Smith

## TAUPO DISTRICT COUNCIL – FINANCIAL REPORT

## REVENUE &amp; EXPENDITURE PERFORMANCE 31 JANUARY 2026

\$000	YTD Actual	YTD Approved Budget	YTD variance	Full year Forecast	Full year AP25/26	Notes
<b>Revenue</b>						
Rates	69,356	68,835	521	118,334	118,089	
Subsidies and grants	4,402	4,110	292	8,073	8,073	
Development and financial contributions	5,715	5,283	432	9,057	9,057	
Fees and charges	10,676	10,229	447	28,558	29,160	
Finance revenue	3,132	3,931	(799)	6,739	6,739	1
Other revenue	4,633	981	3,652	8,144	7,508	2
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>97,914</b>	<b>93,369</b>	<b>4,545</b>	<b>178,905</b>	<b>178,625</b>	
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Personnel costs	19,859	19,815	(44)	33,969	33,969	
Depreciation and amortisation expense	21,569	22,623	1,054	38,701	38,701	3
Finance costs	6,274	6,600	327	11,315	11,315	3
Other expenses	34,012	38,784	4,772	72,545	71,829	4
<b>Total operating expenditure</b>	<b>81,714</b>	<b>87,823</b>	<b>6,108</b>	<b>156,530</b>	<b>155,813</b>	
<b>Operating Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>16,200</b>	<b>5,547</b>	<b>10,653</b>	<b>22,376</b>	<b>22,812</b>	

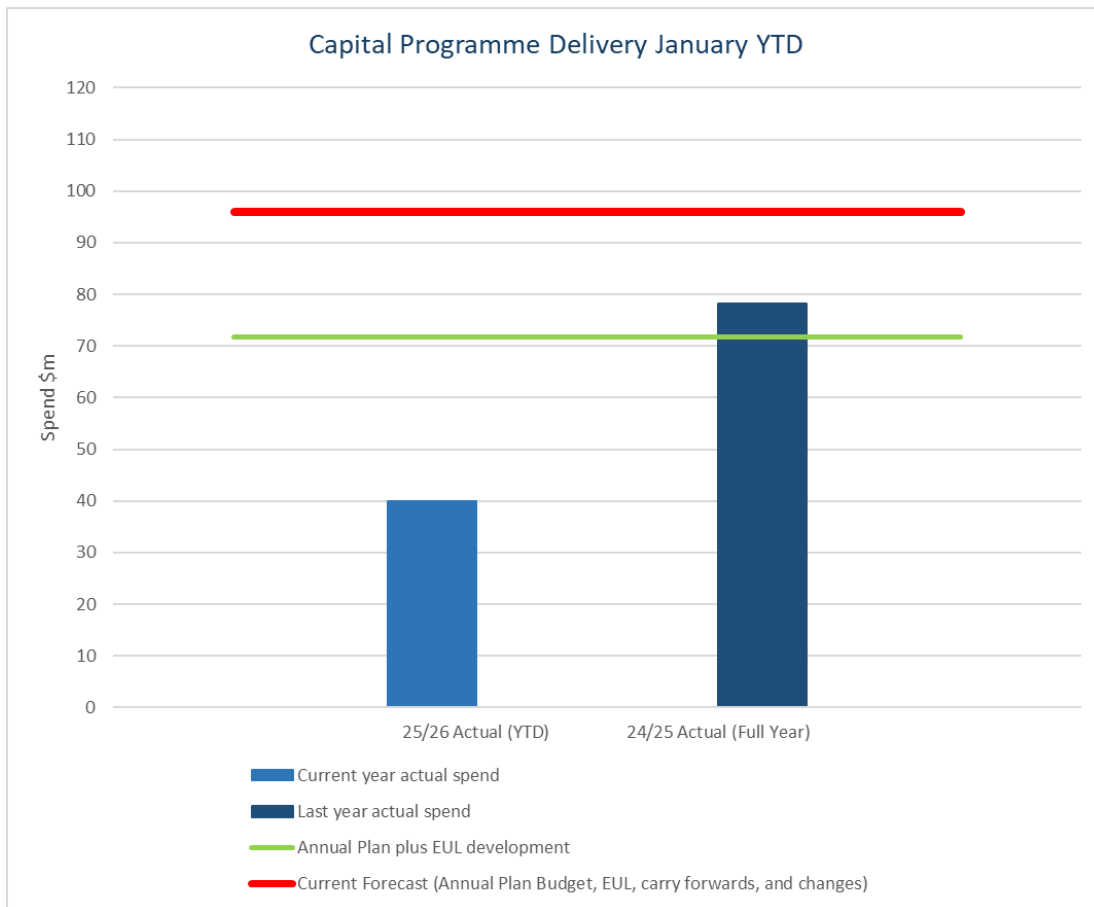
## Explanation of variances

- 1) Finance revenue is behind budget by \$799,000 due to the investment mix of the TEL fund differing to budget. This is offset by other revenue (see explanation 2).
- 2) Other revenue is above budget by \$3.7m, due to the unrealised gains on the TEL fund which are unbudgeted.
- 3) Depreciation is under budget by \$1.1m and interest is under budget by \$327,000, due to the timing of capitalisation of assets and infrastructure revaluations.
- 4) Other expenses are under budget by \$4.8m. The main drivers are timing of expenditure, solid waste levies \$1.1m, IT software costs \$1.0m, consultancy expenses \$895,000, service delivery costs \$664,000, resource consent renewals \$584k, and direct costs (materials) \$456,000.

**FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JANUARY 2026**

\$000	YTD Actual	Year End Budget (AP)	Note
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	14,125	10,656	
Trade and other receivables	38,914	9,634	
Other financial assets	113,258	130,243	
Prepayments	2,908	1,775	
Inventories	18,968	18,150	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>188,174</b>	<b>170,458</b>	
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Derivative financial instruments	163	0	
Intangible assets	7,184	7,497	
Investment in CCO and other similar entities	12,266	10,810	
Investment properties	62,210	33,303	
Biological assets - forestry	9,680	9,623	
Property, Plant and Equipment	1,975,062	2,155,463	
<b>Total Non-current assets</b>	<b>2,066,564</b>	<b>2,216,696</b>	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>2,254,738</b>	<b>2,387,154</b>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	40,239	22,687	
Employee benefit liabilities	4,578	3,937	
Derivative financial instruments	343	79	
Borrowings	73,000	38,000	
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>118,161</b>	<b>64,703</b>	
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Provisions	174	180	
Derivative financial instruments	2,425	964	
Borrowings	164,093	234,131	
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>	<b>166,693</b>	<b>235,275</b>	
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>284,854</b>	<b>299,978</b>	
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>1,969,884</b>	<b>2,087,176</b>	





We have achieved 41.7% of the current forecast budget.

Please note that due to accounting treatment the EUL development is not included in the Annual Plan capital budget but for ease of reporting we include it in the capital expenditure actuals as it is, in essence, capital expenditure. In the Annual Plan the value of the work is included in inventory.

**CE DELEGATIONS REPORTING**

CE approval of budgeted expenditure over \$500,000:

Date	Description	Contractor/Supplier	Amount
21/01/2026	CN754 Water & Wastewater Pipe Renewals Omori	Nolan Drainage Contractors Limited	\$1,736,152

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

## TREASURY REPORT

## TEL Fund update

Customised Investment Solutions

31 January 2026

Account Number: 6000004

Adviser Names: Andrew Bateman &amp; Roger FitzGerald

## Portfolio Summary

### Taupo District Council

Interim Only

## Customised Investment Solutions

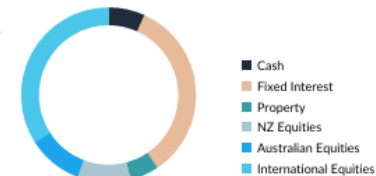
As a Wholesale Advice Client and a Wholesale DIMS Investor you have authorised Forsyth Barr Limited to manage this portfolio in accordance with the Service Agreement for our **Wholesale Portfolio Advisory & Management Service**, a discretionary portfolio advisory and management service.

Your portfolio is managed on a discretionary basis in accordance with our Service Agreement and with reference to your Statement of Investment Policy & Objectives (SIPO), noting in particular any investment limitations or exclusions in your SIPO.

## Asset Allocation

Sector	NZ Dollar Value	Portfolio %
Cash	5,520,580.27	6.7
Fixed Interest	27,716,465.66	33.9
Property	4,328,144.18	5.3
NZ Equities	8,102,674.60	9.9
Australian Equities	8,274,813.46	10.1
International Equities	27,865,506.07	34.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 81,808,184.24</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Underlying sectors in which the portfolio is invested



## Currency Allocation

Assets by Currency	Native Value	FX Rate	NZ Dollar Value	Portfolio %
New Zealand Dollar	45,645,862.84	1.0000	45,645,862.84	55.8
Australian Dollar	30,100,704.09	0.8650	34,797,693.08	42.5
United States Dollar	822,052.10	0.6024	1,364,628.32	1.7
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 81,808,184.24</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Currency of market on which the security trades

