

District Development Committee

Terms of Reference

Introduction

The District Development Committee is established to support the Manawatu District Council’s strategic direction in fostering sustainable growth, community wellbeing, and economic vitality across the Manawātū District. The Committee provides focused governance oversight of district planning, land use, and development matters, ensuring these activities advance the outcomes and priorities set out in the Long-Term Plan and other key strategic frameworks.

The Committee operates under delegated authority from the Council and provides recommendations on matters of district development policy, strategy, and implementation that have significant community, economic, or social implications. It also serves as a key interface between planning, economic, and community development functions to ensure coordinated and future-focused decision-making that enhances the liveability and prosperity of the district.

Purpose

The purpose of the District Development Committee is to guide and oversee the planning and development of the district in a manner that promotes sustainable growth, vibrant communities, and a resilient local economy. The Committee ensures that development initiatives, planning frameworks, and related policy work align with Council’s strategic objectives, legislative requirements, and community aspirations.

Through its oversight and recommendations, the Committee supports informed Council decision-making that balances growth with community wellbeing, inclusion, and the creation of thriving places where people and businesses can succeed.

Responsibilities

- 1 Consider the impact of the Government’s Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms. Make recommendations to Council for consideration and / or approval, noting any strategic risks.
- 2 Consider the districts Growth Framework, associated village plans, and other related planning work such as the Housing Capacity Model. Make recommendations to Council for consideration and / or approval, noting any strategic risks.
- 3 Receive the progress reports on the District Plan programme of work, and escalate any strategic risks and make recommendations to Council for approval as required.
- 4 Approve the initiatives to be delivered for the Feilding Town Centre Refresh project that was approved by Council in the 2024-2034 Long-term Plan.
- 5 Consider potential economic development opportunities (outside of those delivered by the Central Economic Development Agency or Feilding and District Promotions). Make recommendations to Council for consideration and / or approval, noting any strategic risks.
- 6 Consider matters relating to community development, including opportunities, partnerships, community needs and initiatives that contribute to community wellbeing and Council’s strategic outcomes. Make recommendations to Council for consideration and/or approval, noting any strategic risks.
- 7 Provide governance oversight of Council’s community grant funding in accordance with the Grants Policy, Community Committees Policy and Marae and Hapū Committees Policy including:

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a. receive and consider for approval all Priority Services contracts;

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b. receive an annual performance summary report on Priority Services contracts, with Priority Services contract holders presenting annually to the Committee;

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c. receive and consider reports on grant applications exceeding \$20,000, and approve the allocations where applicable;

d. receive six-monthly or annual summary reports outlining grant decisions made under delegation by the Grant Connector (up to \$1,000 in accordance with the Grants Policy), General Manager – Community (up to \$5,000), and the Executive Leadership Team (\$5,001–\$20,000);

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e. receive six-monthly and annual summary reports on funding allocated through Community Committees and Marae and Hapū Committees; and

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f. ensure that all grant decisions align with Council policy, strategic priorities, and approved budgets.

Note performance reporting relating to Council’s direct strategic relationships will continue to be presented directly to Council. These include organisations like Central Economic Development Agency, Feilding and District Promotions, Manfeild, and Sport Manawatu

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Membership

- Chairperson: Cr Colin Dyer
- Deputy Chairperson: Cr Raewyn Loader
- Members: Cr Bridget Bell, Cr Alison Short, Cr Sam Hill, Cr Duindam, Cr McKelvie, and the Mayor

Quorum

Three members of the committee.

Meeting Cycle

Meetings held 2-monthly on a Wednesday at 8.30 am.