

Council

Meeting of 07 October 2026

Business Unit: Corporate

Date Created: 18 August 2026

Adoption of the Meetings Schedule for 2027

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To presenting to Council the proposed meetings schedule for the 2027 calendar year, for adoption.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Council adopts the Meetings Schedule for 2027, as set out in Attachment 1 of this report, without amendment.

OR

That the Council adopts the Meetings Schedule for 2027, as set out in Attachment 1 of this report, with below amendments.

Report prepared by:

Steph Skinner

Governance and Strategy Officer

Approved for submission by:

Frances Smorti

General Manager - Corporate

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) requires Council to hold the meetings that are necessary for the good government of the District. A proposed calendar schedule of meetings, based on the terms of reference for Council and its committees, is attached to this report.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 Not applicable as this is an operational item.

3 Discussion and Options Considered Ngā Matapakinga me ngā Kōwhiringa i Wānangahia

- 3.1 Council meetings have been scheduled for the first and third Wednesday of every month, to be followed with a workshop session.
- 3.2 The quarterly meetings of the Finance and Performance Committee have been scheduled to fit in with the quarterly reporting timeframe, for the fourth Wednesday of March, June, and September, and the second Wednesday in December.
- 3.3 District Licensing Committee meetings are scheduled every third Monday throughout the 2026 year. Where there is a public holiday, a Tuesday may be applicable.
- 3.4 Manawatū Water Services meetings are scheduled for the second Wednesday from February to December.
- 3.5 District Development Committee meetings are scheduled two monthly, with meetings on the second Wednesday for March, May, and November, and the fourth Wednesday in July and September.
- 3.6 The five Focus Groups (Infrastructure, District Planning, Long Term Plan, Community Facilities and Open Spaces and Town Centre Refresh) have been scheduled for months February, April, June, August, October and December, on a Wednesday where available. June and December are a Tuesday.
- 3.7 The Creative Communities Funding Panel has been scheduled to coincide with the Creative Communities Scheme funding application process.
- 3.8 Hearing and deliberation dates have been scheduled for the Long-Term Plan.
- 3.9 The schedule may be updated once further Committee meeting dates have been finalised or added to as required.
- 3.10 As far as practical for Councillors, meetings have been scheduled for Wednesdays.
- 3.11 Where practical no meetings have been scheduled between 24 June and 19 July 2027.

- 3.12 Note: Meetings are subject to change dependant on LGNZ conference dates being confirmed.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

- 4.1 There are no risks associated with this report.

5 Engagement Te Whakapānga

Significance of Decision

- 5.1 The decision discussed in this report is considered to be of low significance, in accordance with schedule 1 of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. The Special Consultative Procedure (s83, LGA 2002) is not required.

Māori and Cultural Engagement

- 5.2 There are no known cultural considerations associated with the matters addressed in this report. No specific engagement with Māori or other ethnicity groups is necessary.

Community Engagement

- 5.3 The Council is required to give public notice of all Council and Committee meetings in the month prior to the meetings taking place. Although there is no requirement for the Council to set a schedule of meetings for the full year (meetings can instead be set month-by-month), it is long-standing practice for MDC to adopt an annual meeting schedule. This gives members and officers greater ability to plan and schedule other priorities around formal meetings.
- 5.4 The Council is also required to make the agenda and associated reports available to the public at least two clear working days prior to each meeting.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 There are no operational implications with this report.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 There are no financial implications with this report.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 The Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 set the framework for the scheduling and holding of meetings. Clause 21(5)(d), Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 sets out the requirement for fixing the date and time of the first meeting of Council.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

- 9.1 Once adopted, the meeting dates will be published on the Council's website.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- 2027 Meetings Schedule