



Council

Meeting of 21 October 2026

Business Unit: Corporate

Date Created: 28 September 2026

Submissions made on behalf of Council 05 June to 18 September 2026

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To present to Council, for information, copies of recent submissions lodged on behalf of Manawātū District Council.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Council receives and notes the following submissions lodged on behalf of Manawātū District Council between 5 June and 18 September 2026:

1. Ring-fencing Revenue for Water Entities
2. Better Regional Boundaries Bill
3. Climate Change Response (Tort Liability) Amendment Bill
4. Conservation Amendment Bill
5. Consultation on Groups of Activities
6. Resilience Principles for Infrastructure Providers
7. Environmental Reporting Amendment Bill
8. International Visitors Levy (IVL) Investment framework for tourism
9. National Engineering Design Standards
10. Local Government (Management of Local Authorities) Amendment Bill

Report prepared by:

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Governance and Strategy Officer

Approved for submission by:

Ash Garstang

Acting General Manager – Corporate

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 Completed submissions lodged on behalf of MDC are reported regularly to Council for receipt and noting.
- 1.2 Submissions are prepared on behalf of the Manawātū District Council and, depending on the nature of the topic, are intended to reflect the views and needs of the wider Manawātū community.
- 1.3 Due to the often limited time available to consider Council responses to regional and national matters, the Submissions Assessment Panel has delegated authority to consider and approve submissions for lodgement.
- 1.4 The Panel is made up of elected members and members of the executive leadership team. Feedback from Submissions Assessment Panel members is considered and incorporated where appropriate prior to the final submission being approved by the Mayor for lodgement. This collaborative approach helps ensure that submissions reflect the collective views of Council.
- 1.5 Where submissions relate to matters of broad Council interest, officers will involve all elected members. Where time allows, officers will hold workshop sessions and invite feedback on the draft submission prior to it being finalised.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 Not applicable as this is an operational reporting item.

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

- 3.1 The following is a list of submissions that have been lodged on behalf of Council since the last report to Council at its meeting on 03 June 2026:

Attach #	Submission topic:	Date lodged:
1	Ring-fencing Revenue for Water Entities	5 June 2026
2	Better Regional Boundaries Bill	24 June 2026
3	Climate Change Response (Tort Liability) Amendment Bill	13 July 2026
4	Conservation Amendment Bill	2 July 2026
5	Consultation on Groups of Activities	31 July 2026
6	Resilience Principles for Infrastructure Providers	12 August 2026
7	Environmental Reporting Amendment Bill	18 August 2026
8	IVL Investment framework for tourism	1 Sept 2026
9	National Engineering Design Standards	9 Sept 2026
10	Local Government (Management of Local Authorities) Amendment Bill	18 Sept 2026

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

- 4.1 The primary risk associated with making submissions on behalf of Council is reputational. Submissions may address matters on which members of the community hold differing views, creating a risk that Council's stated position may attract criticism or disagreement. Council adopts a cautious approach to reputational risk.
- 4.2 Reputational risk is managed via an informed and collaborative approach to preparing submissions. Officers draft submissions with the input of technical experts from across the organisation. Officers also consider submissions prepared by local government sector organisations including Taituarā and Local Government New Zealand, where available. Any submissions that involve potentially controversial topics are reviewed by the Executive Leadership Team, Submissions Assessment Panel, or the Mayor, prior to lodging.

5 Engagement Te Whakapānga

Significance of Decision

- 5.1 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy is not triggered by matters discussed in this report. No stakeholder engagement is required.

Māori and Cultural Engagement

- 5.2 There are no specific Māori or cultural engagement requirements arising from Council receiving and noting this report. Engagement with Māori may be undertaken as part of the development of individual submissions where relevant.

Community Engagement

- 5.3 No community engagement is required for this item. Community engagement may be undertaken, if necessary and where time allows, for significant submissions.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 Copies of submissions lodged under delegated authority are reported to Council for noting and receipt.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 There are no specific statutory requirements associated with receiving and noting this report.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

- 9.1 There are no next steps required.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

Lodged Submissions attached:

1. Ring-fencing Revenue for Water Entities
2. Better Regional Boundaries Bill
3. Climate Change Response (Tort Liability) Amendment Bill
4. Conservation Amendment Bill
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7. Environmental Reporting Amendment Bill
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