

## Finance and Performance Committee

Meeting of 25 March 2026

Business Unit: Community  
Date Created: 06 March 2026

### Grant Funding Decisions – Community Committees, Marae and Hāpu

#### Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The purpose of this report is to update the Finance and Performance Committee, for the period 1 July 2025 to 28 February 2026, on the performance of:

- Community committee funding administered in accordance with the Community Development Policy, and
- Marae and hapū committee funding administered in accordance with the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy.

#### Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Committee:

- Note the performance of funding administered for Community Committee projects and Community Planning implementations under the Community Development Policy for the period 1 July 2025 to 28 February 2026.
- Note the performance of funding administered for Marae and Hapū projects and Marae and Hapū Contestable funds under the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy for the period 1 July 2025 to 28 February 2026.

Report prepared by:  
Adie Johansen  
Community Services Manager

Approved for submission by:  
Lyn Daly  
General Manager - Community

---

# 1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

1.1 Council supports a range of community-led initiatives through funding programmes that enable communities to progress locally identified priorities and initiatives. These funding programmes form part of Council's broader community development framework to support locally driven initiatives that contribute to the wellbeing and resilience of communities across the Manawatū District.

1.2 Council works with local communities to support initiatives identified at a community level, with community committees and marae and hapū committees playing a key role in identifying priorities and directing funding toward local projects and initiatives.

## **Community Committees**

1.3 Community Committees are established under the Community Committees Policy, which outlines their role as advisory bodies that provide a link between Council and their local communities. Through this role, community committees help identify local priorities, raise issues affecting their communities, and support projects and initiatives that enhance community wellbeing.

1.4 Community Committee funding is currently administered in accordance with the Community Development Policy and supports initiatives identified through community committees and local community planning processes.

1.5 Council's funding includes:

1.5.1 Community Committee Project Fund – provides each committee with an annual allocation (historically \$3,000, increased to \$3,149 for the 2025/26 financial year) to deliver small-scale, locally identified projects.

1.5.2 Community Planning Implementation Fund – provides a contestable pool of funding, with the total budget set through the Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan, to support projects that implement priorities identified in adopted Community Plans.

1.6 While these funds are currently referenced within the Community Development Policy, their purpose and delivery are closely aligned with the role of community committees outlined in the Community Committees Policy. As a result, staff are proposing that future references to these funds be incorporated within the Community Committees Policy to better reflect the role of community committees in identifying and supporting these initiatives. This will be drafted alongside the creation of the proposed Grants Policy in April 2026.

1.7 Funding administered through Community Committees is directed through committee processes. Committees determine the use of their allocated project funding through resolutions at committee meetings, supported by annual work programmes. Funding through the Community Planning Implementation Fund is also considered through this process and is required to align with priorities identified in adopted Community Plans. Council staff provide administrative and financial oversight of all funding.

## **Marae and Hapū Committees**

- 1.8 Council provides support for initiatives identified through Marae and Hapū Committees, which operate under the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy. These committees provide a mechanism for engagement between Council and mana whenua communities and help identify priorities and initiatives that benefit marae and hapū within the district.
- 1.9 Council's funding includes:
- 1.9.1 Marae and Hapū Committee Project Fund – provides each committee with an annual allocation (historically \$3,000, increased to \$3,149 for the 2025/26 financial year) to deliver small-scale projects within their marae or hapū community, which in practice often includes improvements and upgrades to marae facilities.
  - 1.9.2 Marae and Hapū Contestable Fund – provides a contestable pool of funding, with the total budget set through the Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan, to support projects that meet the criteria set out in the policy and respond to identified marae and hapū priorities.
- 1.10 Funding administered through Marae and Hapū Committees is directed through committee processes, with committees identifying and prioritising projects through agreed work programmes. The Marae and Hapū Contestable Fund operates through a separate application and assessment process, with applications considered and approved by Te Kōtui Reo Taumata under delegated authority. Council staff provide administrative and financial oversight of all funding.
- 1.11 Note that a separate report to the Finance and Performance Committee provides an update on the performance of contestable funding programmes administered under the Community Development Policy, whereas this report focuses on funding administered through community committees and marae and hapū committees.

## **2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki**

- 2.1 Community committee funding administered under the Community Development Policy and marae and hapū committee funding administered under the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy support several of Council's Long-term Plan priorities by enabling locally identified initiatives that contribute to the social, cultural, environmental and community wellbeing of the Manawatū District.
- 2.2 These funds contribute to the following strategic priorities outlined in the Long-term Plan:
- 2.2.1 **A place to belong and grow:** By supporting community-led projects and initiatives identified through community committees and marae and hapū committees that strengthen community connections, encourage participation in local activities, and help residents feel connected and engaged in their communities.
  - 2.2.2 **A future planned together:** Through funding that enables community committees and marae and hapū committees to identify local priorities and progress projects and initiatives that reflect the aspirations and needs of their communities.

2.2.3 **A prosperous, resilient economy:** By supporting local initiatives and improvements to community spaces and facilities that contribute to the vibrancy of towns and villages and encourage participation in community life across the district.

2.2.4 **Value for money and excellence in local government:** By allocating funding through established committee structures and ensuring public funds are used in a transparent and accountable manner to deliver initiatives that provide tangible benefits for local communities.

2.2.5 **An environment to be proud of:** By supporting projects and initiatives that enhance community spaces, facilities and environments, contributing to places that residents value and take pride in.

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

3.1 This section provides an overview of both the funding provided, and the activity and outcomes delivered, as a result of the funding for the period 1 July 2025 to 28 February 2026.

#### Community Committee Project Fund

3.2 The Community Committee Project Fund supports small-scale projects and initiatives identified by Community Committees within their communities.

3.3 The allocations and expenditure for this fund as at the 28<sup>th</sup> February this year are:

Community	Budget	Spent / Committed	Remaining
Administration	\$3,149.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,149.00
Apiti	\$3,149.00	\$3,063.00	\$86.00
Bainesse / Rangiotu	\$3,939.00	\$790.06	\$3,148.94
Cheltenham	\$3,149.00	\$2,340.00	\$809.00
Colyton	\$15,149.00	\$4,557.15	\$10,591.85
Glen Oroua / Taikorea	\$9,949.00	\$7,003.25	\$2,945.75
Halcombe	\$5,599.00	\$3,588.75	\$2,010.25
Himatangi Beach	\$10,275.00	\$942.44	\$9,332.56
Hiwinui	\$7,194.00	\$6,130.00	\$1,064.00
Kiwitea	\$9,469.00	\$9,320.00	\$149.00
Kimbolton	\$3,591.00	\$1,275.00	\$2,316.00
Pohangina	\$5,891.00	\$2,185.32	\$3,705.68
Rangiwahia	\$3,149.00	\$2,542.53	\$606.47
Rongotea	\$3,149.00	\$2,721.17	\$427.83
Sanson	\$9,089.00	\$5,920.00	\$3,169.00
Tangimoana	\$4,149.00	\$3,822.15	\$326.85
Waituna West	\$4,159.00	\$2,229.27	\$1,929.73
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$103,198.00</b>	<b>\$58,429.09</b>	<b>\$45,768.91</b>

3.4 The funding uplifted by community committees has been invested into locally determined projects in their communities in the following ways:

3.4.1 funding local community infrastructure improvements, maintenance work and equipment purchases that enable facilities to continue being used by community groups and residents such as:

- Apiti – installation of heat pumps to improve heating in the Apiti Hall.
- Tangimoana – replacement of weatherboards on the community hall.
- Glen Oroua / Taikorea – replacement of weatherboards on front face of the community-owned hall and toilet block, painting the exterior of the front of the hall and some other maintenance.
- Rangiwahia – development of a memorabilia room in the hall to display and preserve local history.

3.4.2 funding local community-led improvements to shared spaces such as:

- Bainesse / Rangiotu – creating a picnic space with a picnic table and plantings on what had been a metal stockpile drop off area.
- Colyton – developing the road reserve on the corner of Taonui and Colyton Road into a park like space including picnic areas, pathways and plantings.
- Halcombe – installation of local history boards highlighting the heritage of the area.
- Himatangi – developing a sunset viewing platform within the dunes at the centre of the town.
- Kimbolton – enhancements to Hauwhiti Reserve and safety improvements to the Kimbolton Road garden area.

3.4.3 funding locally organised community gatherings and commemorative activities such as ANZAC Day, to provide opportunities for residents to connect together.

### **Community Planning Implementation Fund**

3.5 The Community Planning Implementation Fund supports projects identified in adopted community committee plans.

3.6 The allocations and expenditure for this fund as at the 28th February this year are:

<b>Community</b>	<b>Spent to Date</b>	<b>Approved Not Yet Claimed</b>
Apiti	\$3,377.00	–
Bainesse / Rangiotu	\$10,011.29	\$600.00
Colyton	-	\$20,000.00
Glen Oroua / Taikorea	\$7,897.50	\$3,000.00
Halcombe	–	\$1,000.00
Himatangi Beach	–	\$17,800.00
Hiwinui	\$8,737.50	\$1,262.50
Kimbolton	–	\$3,000.00
Pohangina	–	\$9,798.33
Rangiwahia	–	\$5,000.00
Tangimoana	\$3,619.65	\$4,691.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$33,642.94</b>	<b>\$66,151.83</b>

3.7 Projects funded or approved during the reporting period include:

- Apiti – installation of heat pumps in the community hall.
- Bainesse / Rangiotu – creating a picnic space with a picnic table and plantings on what had been a metal stockpile drop off area.
- Colyton – developing the road reserve on the corner of Taonui and Colyton Road into a park like space including picnic areas, pathways and plantings.
- Glen Oroua / Taikorea – replacement of weatherboards on front face of the community-owned hall and toilet block, painting the exterior of the front of the hall and some other maintenance.
- Halcombe – installation of local history boards highlighting the heritage of the area.
- Himatangi – developing a sunset viewing platform within the dunes at the centre of the town.
- Hiwinui – an extension onto an existing pathway in the village.
- Kimbolton – enhancements to Hauwhiti Reserve and safety improvements to the Kimbolton Road garden area\*
- Pohangina – further development of the Pohangina Domain – a staged project over the past six years which has included erecting a stockyard, picnic tables, pathways, tree planting, history boards to make the domain a space to visit and enjoy.
- Pohangina – a Story Walk at Pohangina Domain delivered in partnership with Manawatū Community Hub Libraries.
- Rangiwahia – development of a memorabilia room in the hall to display and preserve local history.
- Tangimoana – replacement of weatherboards on the community hall.

### **Marae and Hapū Committee Project Fund**

3.8 The Marae and Hapū Committee Project fund supports the delivery of small-scale projects within the marae or hapū community such as improvements and upgrades to marae facilities.

3.9 The allocations and expenditure for this fund as at the 28th February this year are:

<b>Marae / Hapū</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>Spent / Committed</b>	<b>Remaining</b>
Aorangi Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,149.00 (uplifted)	\$0
Kauwhata Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,149.00 (approved)	\$0
Parewahawaha Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,140.70 (uplifted)	\$8.30
Poupatatē Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,149.00 (uplifted)	\$0
Taumata-o-te-rā Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,149.00 (approved)	\$0
Te Hiiri Marae	\$3,149.00	\$3,149.00 (approved)	\$0
Te Rangimārie Marae	\$3,149.00	\$0.00	\$3,149.00
Te Tikanga Marae	\$3,149.00	\$0.00	\$3,149.00
Ngāti Te Au	\$3,149.00	\$3,010.77 (uplifted)	\$138.23
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$28,341</b>	<b>\$21,896.47</b>	<b>\$6,444.53</b>

3.10 Projects supported or approved during the reporting period include:

- Aorangi Marae – pathway access to the whare kaumātua to improve accessibility for those with mobility issues
- Kauwhata Marae – Kauta renovation, including new kitchen flooring
- Parewahawaha Marae – building maintenance equipment
- Poupatatē Marae – marae development works
- Taumata-o-te-rā Marae – urupā beam installation
- Te Hiiri Marae – installation of lighting in front and rear carpark areas

- Ngāti Te Au – marae rebuild planning, including hui with Himatangi 1D1B5 owners and Ngāti Te Au hapū

### **Marae and Hapū Contestable Fund**

3.11 The Marae and Hapū Contestable Fund is for larger or more specialised improvements to marae infrastructure and facilities used for activities and gatherings held at those marae and is intended to provide support where additional funding is required.

3.12 The allocations and expenditure for this fund as at the 28th February this year are:

<b>Marae / Hapū</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
Aorangi Marae	\$7,630.11
Kauwhata Marae	\$1,800.00
Parewahawaha Marae	\$2,111.22
Taumata-o-te-rā Marae	\$2,400.00
Te Hiiri Marae	\$8,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$21,941.33</b>

3.13 Projects supported or approved during the reporting period include:

- Aorangi Marae – repainting the exterior of the Whare Kaumātua.
- Kauwhata Marae – installation of new flooring in the smaller kitchen.
- Parewahawaha Marae – purchase of a fridge as part of kitchen facility upgrades.
- Taumata-o-te-rā Marae – kitchen security and storage upgrade (later repurposed toward improvements associated with the urupā beam).
- Te Hiiri Marae – site maintenance project addressing car parking, driveways, land drainage and site levels.

## **4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru**

4.1 Community Committee funding and Marae/Hapū funding support locally led projects and initiatives that contribute to community wellbeing across the Manawatū District. The risks associated with these funding programmes are generally low to moderate and are managed through the Community Committees Policy, the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy, and Council staff oversight.

4.2 Overall, the risks associated with these funding programmes are considered manageable and are mitigated through the policy framework, committee decision-making processes and Council staff oversight.

### **Financial Risk**

4.3 Unless there are exceptional circumstances, funding cannot automatically be carried forward into the following financial year. Where projects are delayed due to circumstances outside the control of the committee, the GM Community may consider requests to carry funding forward. This has been clearly communicated to committees. Exceptional circumstances include volunteer availability changes or where external factors affect delivery, such as severe weather events, contractor availability or other unforeseen circumstances.

- 4.4 These risks are mitigated through the approval processes outlined in the Community Committees Policy and Marae and Hapū Committees Policy, which require projects to be approved and recorded through Council systems. Council staff also monitor funding allocations and work with committees to ensure projects are planned and delivered within the appropriate timeframes.

#### **Community Planning Alignment Risk**

- 4.5 The Community Planning Implementation Fund is intended to support projects that progress priorities identified through each community's agreed community plan.
- 4.6 There is a risk that over time the focus of Community Committees may shift away from the priorities identified in these plans, particularly where plans have not been reviewed recently or where committee membership changes.
- 4.7 Council works to mitigate this risk by working with committees to ensure projects supported through the Implementation Fund align with community plan priorities and through periodic reviews of community plans to ensure they continue to reflect the priorities of residents.

#### **Asset Ownership and Ongoing Maintenance Risk**

- 4.8 Some projects progressed through Community Committees may result in assets that are expected to be vested to Council following completion, such as footpath and walkways, landscaping development, or signage for example.
- 4.9 Where this occurs without prior agreement or planning, there is a risk that Council may be expected to inherit unplanned operational or financial commitments associated with maintaining these assets.
- 4.10 Council staff have been working to address this risk through the development of a Vested Assets Policy, which will provide clear guidance on when assets created through community-led projects may be vested in Council and the approval processes that are required at the asset planning stage.
- 4.11 When this policy is ready for release, staff will work with Community Committees and Marae/Hapū Committees to ensure they understand the policy requirements and the need to discuss potential asset vesting with Council prior to progressing projects that may create ongoing Council responsibilities.

## **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 The Marae and Hapū Committees Policy provides a mechanism for Council to engage with marae and hapū within the Manawatū District.

- 5.3 Funding administered through the Marae and Hapū committees supports initiatives, projects and improvements that are important to the marae and hapū communities.

#### Community Engagement

- 5.4 Community Committees provide an established mechanism for local communities to identify and progress initiatives within their areas. Funding administered through these committees supports projects and activities identified by local residents through the community planning process.
- 5.5 While the programmes described in this report involve ongoing engagement with Community Committees and Marae/Hapū Committees, no additional engagement is required for the purposes of this report.

## **6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere**

- 6.1 There are no operational implications associated with this report. The report provides a performance update on the administration of funding under the Community Development Policy and the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy.

## **7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni**

- 7.1 Funding administered through Community Committees and Marae/Hapū Committees is provided through four funding streams. These funds operate within existing budgets approved through Council's Long-term Plan and Annual Plan processes. Following is a summary of the expenditure against budget and the remaining funds available this year across the four funding streams.

### 7.2 Community Committee Project Fund

The total budget for the 2025/26 financial year, including approved carry forwards, is \$103,198.00 and as at 28 February \$58,429.09 of the budget had been uplifted with a remaining balance of \$45,768.91 yet to be released to the community committees.

### 7.3 Community Planning Implementation Fund

The total budget for the 2025/26 financial year, including approved carry forwards, is \$104,178.00 and as at 28 February \$66,151.83 had been approved to support identified projects, of which \$33,642.94 had been uplifted. A remaining balance of \$38,026.17 remains available within the contestable fund for the year.

### 7.4 Marae / Hapū Project Fund

The total budget for the 2025/26 financial year is \$28,341.00 and as at 28 February \$21,896.47 of the budget had been committed. A balance of \$6,444.53 remains, of which \$6,298.00 was allocated for the remaining two marae who have not made a funding application.

#### 7.5 Marae and Hapū Contestable Fund

The total budget for the 2025/26 financial year is \$23,090.00 and as at 28 February \$21,941.33 of the budget had been committed leaving a small balance of \$1,148.67 remaining.

### **8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture**

8.1 There are no specific statutory requirements associated with this report.

8.2 The administration of Community Committee funding and Marae/Hapū funding is undertaken in accordance with the Community Committees Policy, the Marae and Hapū Committees Policy, and relevant Council delegations.

8.3 These policies establish the framework through which Community Committees and Marae/Hapū Committees identify and approve projects within their allocated funding.

### **9 Next Steps Te Kokenga**

9.1 No further actions are required as a result of this report. Staff will continue to administer Community Committee and Marae/Hapū funding in accordance with the relevant policies.

### **10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga**

10.1 Community Development Policy

10.2 Community Committee Policy

10.3 Marae and Hapū Committees Policy