



Council Agenda

Wednesday 17 June 2026, 8:30 am

The meeting will be held at the Manawatū District Council Chambers, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding, and a video recording made available on

www.mdc.govt.nz

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson

His Worship the Mayor, Michael Ford

Deputy Chairperson

Councillor Grant Hadfield

Members

Councillor Bridget Bell
Councillor Shelley Dew-Hopkins
Councillor Rob Duindam
Councillor Colin Dyer
Councillor Sam Hill
Councillor Raewyn Loader
Councillor James McKelvie
Councillor Jerry Pickford
Councillor Andrew Quarrie
Councillor Alison Short



Shayne Harris
Chief Executive

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PAGE

1. MEETING OPENING

Cr Colin Dyer will open the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Mayor Michael Ford is on a leave of absence.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

6

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 03 June 2026 be adopted as a true and correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Notification from elected members of:

4.1 Any interests that may create a conflict with their role as an elected member relating to the items of business for this meeting; and

4.2 Any interests in items in which they have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest as provided for in the Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

5. PUBLIC FORUM

5.1 TE WHATU ORA – SMOKEFREE/VAPEFREE SIGNS (8.30 AM)

Julie Beckett and Sally Darragh will be in attendance speaking to Council.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 FHS FIRST XV RUGBY TEAM – SANIX WORLD RUGBY YOUTH TOURNAMENT (8.40 AM)

Justin Lock and members of the First VX team will be attendance speaking to Council.

7. NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting, that item may be dealt with at that meeting if:

7.1 The Council by resolution so decides; and

7.2 The Chairperson explains at the meeting at a time when it is open to the public the reason why the item is not on the agenda, and the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

8.1 MANAWATŪ WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE RE: DECISION ON WHETHER TO AUDIT THE WATER SERVICES STRATEGY 15

Committee meeting held 10 June 2026.

9. NON-COUNCIL MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the following Community Committees meetings are uploaded to the Council’s website, as they become available.

Liaison councillors will have the opportunity to provide a verbal update.

The below meetings took place from 08 – 16 June 2026:

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Himatangi Beach CC – Cr Jerry Pickford	• 16 June 2026
Kimbolton CC – Cr Rob Duindam	• 8 June 2026
Pohangina Valley CC – Cr Bridget Bell	• 10 June 2026
Sanson CC – Cr Alison Short	• 11 June 2026
Tangimoana CC – Cr James McKelvie	• 15 June 2026
https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/committees-and-organisations/community-committees-and-plans	

MARAE
Aorangī Marae - Cr Rob Duindam
Parewahawaha Marae – Cr Alison Short
Poupatatē Marae – Cr James McKelvie
Taumata-o-te-rā Marae – Cr Colin Dyer
Te Hiiri Marae – Cr Sam Hill
Te Tikanga Marae – Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins
Ngāti Te Au – Cr Grant Hadfield

10. OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 ADOPTION OF THE ANNUAL PLAN FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/27 22

Report of the Chief Financial Officer.

10.2 ADOPTION OF THE RATES RESOLUTION FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/27 90

Report of the Chief Financial Officer.

10.3 ADOPTION OF THE BORROWING RESOLUTION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/27 97

Report of the Chief Financial Officer.

10.4 DEVELOPMENT OF GRANTS POLICY 100

Report of the General Manager – Community.

10.5 RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY 179

Report of the General Manager – Community.

11. CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS**12. PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

COUNCIL TO RESOLVE:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

1. Vesting of 10 Montgomery Street, Feilding to Council

That 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:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
13.1 Vesting of 10 Montgomery Street, Feilding to Council	s7(2)(i) – commercial negotiations <i>The report includes details of a commercial nature, that may be sensitive</i>	s48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

15. MEETING CLOSURE

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 03 JUNE 2026	8:31 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 03 June 2026, which commenced at 8.31 am at the Manawatu District Council Chambers, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding.

PRESENT: Mayor Michael Ford Chairperson
 Councillor Bridget Bell
 Councillor Shelley Dew-Hopkins
 Councillor Rob Duindam
 Councillor Colin Dyer
 Councillor Grant Hadfield
 Councillor Sam Hill
 Councillor Raewyn Loader
 Councillor James McKelvie
 Councillor Jerry Pickford
 Councillor Andrew Quarrie
 Councillor Alison Short

IN ATTENDANCE: Shayne Harris Chief Executive
 Frances Smorti General Manager – Corporate
 Lyn Daly General Manager – Community
 Ash Garstang Governance and Assurance Manager
 Kemi Hughes Senior Adviser – Environmental Policy
 Karyn Crawley Community Operations Adviser
 Wayne Keightley Roothing Manager
 Amy West Technical Infrastructure Support Officer
 Lisa Thomas Strategy Manager

MDC 25-28/270

MEETING OPENING

Jan McGaffin from the Hub Church opened the meeting.

MDC 25-28/271

APOLOGIES

RESOLVED

That the apology from Councillor Shelley Dew-Hopkins for lateness be approved.

Moved by: Mayor Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Alison Short

CARRIED (11-0)

MDC 25-28/272

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 03 JUNE 2026	8:31 AM

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 20 May 2026 be adopted as a true and correct record.

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (11-0)

MDC 25-28/273

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MDC 25-28/274

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 25-28/275

PRESENTATION - REPRESENTATIVE FUND - REGIONAL U14 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

A video presentation was played from Piata Atutahi and Arorangi Atutahi.

- They enjoyed putting their training to use in this highly competitive tournament.

MDC 25-28/276

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/277

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

MDC 25-28/278

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Council Committees and Community Committees were notified for information:

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
WEDNESDAY 03 JUNE 2026	8:31 AM

COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Manawatū Water Services Committee	• 13 May 2026

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Cheltenham Community Committee	• 2 June 2026
Colyton Community Committee	• 21 May 2026
Halcombe Community Committee	• 1 June 2026
Himatangi Beach Community Committee	• 28 May 2026
Rangiwahia Community Committee	• 27 May 2026
Rongotea Community Development Group	• 1 June 2026

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Cheltenham – Cr Rob Duindam. Full attendance from the Committee, and they are ready for installation of welcome signs. They have a heritage project underway with photo boards and put a grant application in for this. Cr Duindam discussed the public meetings around the local government changes with them.
- Colyton – Cr Colin Dyer. They talked about their beautification plan and have completed 50 metres each side of the intersection. They are looking at the creation of a tree avenue. There has been a \$5,000 donation from a local resident and are applying for money from the contestable fund. They had a long discussion about the amalgamation reforms.
- Halcombe – Cr Jerry Pickford. Met with the Halcombe Trust. They are keen to install security cameras.
- Himatangi – Cr Jerry Pickford. Meeting in the surf club and they wanted an update on the stormwater planning. They also discussed the amalgamation reforms.
- Rangiwahia – Cr Grant Hadfield. They have had another break in at the shower coin box. The offenders were apprehended which was good news for the community. They applied for a grant some time ago for memorabilia room and are now working on decking this out. Steve Bielski advised that there are bats in the reserve and they are installing traps to catch pests.
- Rongotea – Cr James McKelvie. They had a reshuffle of the Rongotea Times with a new editor. The internet in the recreation centre has been improved. Their security cameras are functioning. The Committee talked about the amalgamation reforms.

MDC 25-28/279

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

Councillors provided a verbal update on their attendance at marae meetings.

- Cr Bell – mihi to the Kauwhata Trustees for a strategic hui they held with an independent facilitator. Cr Bell advised that Awahuri Forest was raised in this

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COUNCIL	TIME
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hui, and unfortunately there was some belief around Council having forcibly taken the forest back – rather than the Trust voluntarily winding up.

MDC 25-28/280

RESILIENT TANGIMOANA: PRELIMINARY ADAPTATION PLAN: 2026-35

Report of the General Manager – Corporate presenting Council with the Resilient Tangimoana: Preliminary Adaptation Plan 2026–2035, outline its development and key findings and to introduce the stormwater modelling now underway to inform future flood-risk decisions.

RESOLVED

That Council:

- 1. Receives the Resilient Tangimoana: Preliminary Adaptation Plan 2026-35.**
- 2. Notes that MDC and Horizons have commissioned stormwater modelling to support future decision-making on flood-risk reduction in Tangimoana.**

Moved by: Cr Alison Short

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (11-0)

MDC 25-28/281

CENTRAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FINAL STATEMENT OF INTENT 2026/27

Report of the General Manager – Community presenting the Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA) final Statement of Intent for 2026 to 2027.

Jaqui Middleton (Finance and Operations Manager), Jordyn Blackett (Marketing and Communications Manager), and Margy Maré (Board Member) were present from CEDA.

RESOLVED

That Council agrees with the final Statement of Intent 2026 to 2027 submitted by the Central Economic Development Agency (Attachment 2).

Moved by: Cr Colin Dyer

Seconded by: Cr Sam Hill

CARRIED (11-0)

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MDC 25-28/282

MANAWATU COMMUNITY TRUST FINAL STATEMENT OF INTENT 2026/27

Report of the General Manager – Community presenting the Manawatū Community Trust Final Statement of Intent 2026-2027 in accordance with the Local Government Act (2002) Schedule 8 Part 1.

Teresa Hague (General Manager), Ian McKelvie (Trustee), Tracey Hunt (Trustee) and Allan Davey (Trustee) were in attendance on behalf of the Trust.

Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins joined the meeting at 9.36 am.

RESOLVED

That the Council agrees to the Manawatū Community Trust Final Statement of Intent 2026 – 2027 (Attachment 2), noting the below amendment to goal 2:

- **From: 2050 homes by 2030**
- **To: 250 homes by 2030**

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr James McKelvie

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/283

COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATIONS EXEMPTION REPORT

Report of the General Manager – Community seeking Council consider the granting of exemptions to the Manawatū District Youth Development and Wellbeing Trust, MWLASS, Camp Rangi Woods Trust, Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Disaster Relief Fund, RNZAF Ohakea Visitor Centre Trust, and Heartland Contractors from being a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) in accordance with section 7(5) of the Local Government Act 2002.

RESOLVED

That the Council grants exemptions from Council-Controlled Organisation (CCO) status under section 7(5) of the Local Government Act 2002 to the following entities for a three-year period expiring 16 June 2029:

1. **Manawatū District Youth Development and Wellbeing Trust**
2. **Camp Rangi Woods Trust**
3. **Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Disaster Relief Fund**
4. **RNZAF Ohakea Visitor Centre Trust**
5. **MWLASS**

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6. Heartlands Contractors

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/284

SILVER FERN RALLY 2026 ROAD CLOSURE REQUEST

Report of the General Manager – Infrastructure seeking Council consider the application from Ultimate Rally Group Ltd to close various roads within the Manawatū District Council jurisdiction in order to undertake the Silver Fern Rally 2026.

RESOLVED

That the Council, pursuant to Section 342 (b) and the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, permit the following roads to be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic on Thursday 3 December 2026, for the purpose of allowing Ultimate Rally Group Ltd to conduct the Silver Fern Rally 2026. This remains subject to the receipt of the Public Liability and Insurance Policy which will be current at the time of the event, and a traffic management plan, prepared by an authorised Site Traffic Management Supervisor and in accordance with the New Zealand Transport Agency Code of Practice of Temporary Traffic Management.

Roads proposed to be closed to ordinary vehicular traffic:

Stage Name: ZigZag / Ridge Road

Time of Closure: 07.30am to 12.00pm

Zigzag Road - 200m from its intersection with Valley Road, to its intersection with Finnis Road.

Finnis Road - from its intersection with ZigZag Road, to its intersection with Ridge Road.

Ridge Road - from its intersection with Finnis Road, to stage finish at house #2931 (approx 1km south from its intersection with Reids Line Apiti).

*** Note: To assist with the stage security, the closure is also to include 120 metres of each adjoining road, from where it intersects with the road being applied for.**

Adjoining Roads: Finnis Road, Pollock Road, Branch Road (no exit), Coulters Line, Te Awa Road, Londons Ford Road and Coal Creek Road (no exit).

Stage Name: Peep-O-Day /Waipuru Road

Time of Closure: 08.55am to 01.25pm

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Peep-O-Day Road - at its intersection with Rangiwahia Road, to its intersection with Upper Pakihikura Road.

Upper Pakihikura Road - from its intersection with Peep-O-Day Road, to its intersection with Mangapapa Road.

Mangapapa Road - from its intersection with Upper Pakihikura Road, to its change into Waipuru Road.

Waipuru Road - from its intersection with Mangapapa Road, to its intersection with Mangamako Road.

Mangamako Road - from its intersection with Waipuru Road, to finish at house #1437 (approx 2km from its intersection with Otara Road).

*** Note: To assist with the stage security, the closure is also to include 120 metres of each adjoining road, from where it intersects with the road being applied for.**

Adjoining Roads: Ireland Road (no exit), Waituna Tapuae Road, Lower Pakihikura Road, Sandon Block Road, Orangipongo Road (no exit).

Moved by: Cr James McKelvie

Seconded by: Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/285

SUBMISSIONS MADE ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL – 12 MARCH TO 14 MAY 2026

Report of the General Manager – Corporate presenting to Council for information, copies of recent submissions lodged on behalf of the Manawatū District Council.

RESOLVED

That the Council receives and notes the listed submissions, lodged on behalf of the Manawatū District Council between 12 March and 14 May 2026.

- 1 Health and Safety at Work Amendment Bill**
- 2 Proposals to Change Total Mobility**
- 3 NZTA Lane Use Improvements**
- 4 NZTA Revised Procurement Manual**
- 5 Statistics NZ Infringement Consultation**
- 6 Targeted Speed Limit Reviews**
- 7 Technical Amendments to the Wastewater Performance Standards**
- 8 Data and Statistics Amendment Bill**
- 9 Cyber Security of Critical Infrastructure**
- 10 Policing Amendment Bill 2026**

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- 11 Firefighting Water Supplies – Code of Practice**
- 12 Sale of Alcohol (Improving Alcohol Regulation) Amendment Bill**

Moved by: Cr Grant Hadfield

Seconded by: Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins

CARRIED (12-0)

MDC 25-28/286

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 25-28/287

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- 1. Confirmation of Minutes: 20 May 2026**

That 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:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
13. Confirmation of Minutes; 20 May 2026	<p><i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 20 May 2026.</i></p> <p><i>Any changes to previous minutes may require members to discuss the content of the public excluded session.</i></p>	s48(1)(a)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

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Moved by: Mayor Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Colin Dyer

CARRIED (12-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 9.58 am. For items MDC 25-28/288 to MDC 25-28/289 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 9.59 am.

MDC 25-28/290

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 9.59 am.

Meeting Video

<https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/meetings-agendas-and-minutes/videos-of-council-and-committee-meetings/manawatu-district-council-meeting-videos>

Council

Meeting of 17 June 2026

Business Unit: Corporate

Date Created: 22 May 2026

Decision on whether to Audit the Water Services Strategy

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

At its meeting on 10 June 2026, the Manawatū Water Services Committee considered whether the Council should engage the Audit Office to audit the Water Services Strategy and resolved to recommend that Council **does not engage** the Audit Office.

The deadline for requesting a report from the Auditor-General is prior to 1 July 2026.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

That the Council:

1. Notes the recommendation of the Manawatū Water Services Committee at its meeting on 10 June 2026 (MWS 25-28/018) that the Council **does not engage** the Audit Office to audit Council's Water Services Strategy; and
2. **Does not engage** the Audit Office to audit Council's Water Services Strategy.

Report prepared by:

Lisa Thomas

Strategy Manager

Approved for submission by:

Hamish Waugh

General Manager – Infrastructure

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 Council is required by section 230 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025 (“the Act”) to prepare a water services strategy.
- 1.2 As an in-house water services business unit, Council has the option under section 239(1)(b) of the Act to request a report from the Auditor-General on its Water Services Strategy. Unless directed to by the Secretary of Local Government, the decision to request the audit of the Water Services Strategy is optional.
- 1.3 Section 239(2) of the Act requires any request for a report from the Auditor-General to be made at least 12 months before the date by which the Water Services Strategy must be adopted. Under section 230(2), Council must adopt its Water Services Strategy before the start of the financial year to which the strategy relates. Accordingly, the latest date for requesting an audit is considered to be prior to 1 July 2026.

Section 239(4) of the Act sets out the scope for a report from the Auditor-General as follows:

(4) A report from the Auditor-General provided under this section –

(a) must comment on -

(i) whether the strategy gives effect to the purpose of a water services strategy (see section 232); and

(ii) the quality of the information and assumptions underlying the forecast information provided in the strategy; but

(b) must not comment on the merits of the policy content of the strategy.

- 1.4 If the Auditor-General provides a report to a water service provider, Council must include the report in its Water Services Strategy (refer to section 239(5) of the Act).
- 1.5 This report considers the relative merits of having Council’s Water Services Strategy audited against the potential costs. This will enable Council to engage the Audit Office ahead of the deadline, if required.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 Not applicable, as this is primarily a legislative and operational matter.

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

- 3.1 The Manawatū Water Services Committee considered the following options before making its recommendation to Council:
- Option 1 – Council resolves to not request a report from the Auditor-General on the Water Services Strategy

- Option 2 – Council resolves to request a report from the Auditor-General on the Water Services Strategy

3.2 The relative merits of Council requesting an independent audit of its Water Services Strategy are outlined below. This analysis is intended to support the Council’s consideration of the Committee’s recommendation.

Advantages

- Provides independent assurance that the Water Services Strategy is based on reasonable assumptions, forecasts and supporting information.
- May identify risks, gaps or inconsistencies before the strategy is finalised.
- Provides elected members with an independent assessment to support governance decision-making.
- Demonstrates accountability and external scrutiny given the significance of future investment and service delivery decisions.
- Improves the robustness and defensibility of the final strategy.
- Provides additional assurance to regulators, lenders and the wider community.
- Strengthens public confidence and transparency regarding Council's proposed in-house business unit approach.
- Aligns with the assurance approach applied to audited Long-Term Plans.

Disadvantages

- No provision has been made within the draft 2026/27 Annual Plan. Therefore, this audit would be an unbudgeted expense.
- Audit costs are expected to be significant and may be comparable to Long-Term Plan audit costs.
- Limited precedent exists regarding the audit scope and process for Water Services Strategies, creating uncertainty around costs and timeframes.
- Would require additional staff resources to support the audit process.
- Could delay finalisation of the strategy if issues are identified.
- Would provide assurance on assumptions and information, but not on Council's policy choices or preferred delivery model.
- May publicly highlight uncertainties, risks or limitations within assumptions and projections.

3.3 In considering whether to request an audit of the Water Services Strategy, the Council must weigh the benefits of obtaining independent assurance and increased transparency against the additional financial cost, resource implications, and timing considerations. Given Council’s

decision to retain an in-house business unit model for water services delivery, it may consider whether the additional assurance provided by an audit justifies the associated unbudgeted expenditure and staff resourcing requirements.

- 3.4 While a formal decision is not expressly required by legislation, recording the Committee's recommendation and Council's decision provides certainty for the Committee and the community that Council has considered the merits of requesting an audit of the Water Services Strategy and made an informed decision.
- 3.5 Formalising the decision also provides clear direction to staff and mitigates the risk of a future request for an audit being raised after the timeframe for undertaking an audit has passed.
- 3.6 Officers consider that this Committee should **not** recommend that Council request an audit of the Water Services Strategy. The Strategy is being prepared through a robust planning process and will be subject to governance oversight, internal review, and public consultation. Given the significant unbudgeted cost of an audit, the additional staff resources required, and the limited assurance provided on policy decisions, officers do not consider that the likely benefits justify the additional expenditure.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

- 4.1 The key risks with this decision are as follows:

Financial Risk

- 4.1.1 Requesting an audit of the Water Services Strategy would result in additional unbudgeted expenditure. While the final cost has not yet been scoped, preliminary advice indicates costs may be significant. As Water Services Strategies are a new statutory requirement, there is currently limited precedent regarding audit scope and assurance expectations, which may contribute to increased audit time and cost as methodologies and review processes are established.

Timing and Delivery Risk

- 4.1.2 There is a risk that undertaking an audit could impact programme timeframes if additional information or amendments are required through the audit process. Conversely, delaying a decision on whether to request an audit may result in insufficient time to secure audit involvement later.

Reputational/Public Confidence Risk

- 4.1.3 A decision not to request an audit may be perceived as providing a lower level of independent assurance over the Water Services Strategy. An audit process may also identify issues or uncertainties that require further public explanation or clarification.

Governance Risk

- 4.1.4 In the absence of a formal resolution, there is a risk of uncertainty regarding Council's position on whether an audit was considered or intended. Recording a formal decision provides clarity for governance and staff and reduces the likelihood of the matter being revisited after audit timeframes have passed.

Organisational Capacity / Resourcing Risk

- 4.1.5 Undertaking an audit would require additional staff resources to support information requests, modelling reviews, and audit engagement activities, which may impact delivery of other priority work programmes.

Conclusion for this Risk Assessment

- 4.2 The risks associated with either option are considered manageable provided Council makes a clear and timely decision regarding whether to request an audit of the Water Services Strategy.

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 additional engagement is required.
- 5.2 The Water Services Strategy will be publicly consulted on alongside the draft Long-term Plan in early 2027. If Council chooses to have the WSS audited a copy of the report from the Auditor-General would be included in the Water Services Strategy prior to its adoption.

Māori and Cultural Engagement

- 5.3 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.
- 5.4 Specific consultation with iwi/Māori will be considered as part of consultation on Council's draft Water Services Strategy in early 2027.

Community Engagement

- 5.5 No community engagement will be carried out in relation to the decision on whether to audit the Water Services Strategy. However, community engagement on the draft Water Services Strategy will be carried out in accordance with the Communication and Engagement Plan in early 2027.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 The decision does not directly affect day-to-day water service delivery operations. However, requesting an audit would require additional staff resources and support across the Water Services Strategy work programme, which may impact the timing and prioritisation of other workstreams.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. However, should Council approve a request for an audit of the Water Services Strategy, this would result in unbudgeted expenditure within the 2026/27 Annual Plan.
- 7.2 The final audit cost would be confirmed following engagement with the Audit Office and formal scoping of the work. Preliminary advice indicates the cost may be comparable to, or slightly

less than, the Long-Term Plan audit, with initial estimates suggesting a potential cost of up to \$180k.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

8.1 The statutory requirements relating to the preparation and optional audit of a Water Services Strategy are set out in sections 230–239 of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

9.1 If Council decides not to request an audit of the Water Services Strategy, no further action will be required in relation to audit engagement. Council will continue to develop the Water Services Strategy in accordance with legislative requirements and apply its usual internal review and quality assurance processes.

9.2 If Council decides to request an audit of the Water Services Strategy, a formal request will be prepared and submitted to the Audit Office prior to 1 July 2026.

10 Attachment

MWS Committee – Extract from Minutes - MWS 25-28-018 Decision on whether to Audit the Water Services Strategy

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES

MANAWATŪ WATER SERVICES COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD 10 JUNE 2026

MWS 25-28/018

DECISION ON WHETHER TO AUDIT THE WATER SERVICES STRATEGY

Report of the General Manager – Infrastructure seeking the Manawatū Water Services Committee to consider whether to recommend that Council engage the Audit Office to audit Council’s Water Services Strategy. The deadline for requesting a report from the Auditor-General is prior to 1 July 2026.

RESOLVED

That the Manawatū Water Services Committee recommends that Council:

- 1. Not engage the Audit Office to audit Council’s Water Services Strategy.**

Moved by: Cr Shelley Dew-Hopkins

Seconded by: Cr Grant Hadfield

CARRIED (8-0)

Council

Meeting of 17 June 2026

Business Unit: Finance

Date Created: 11 May 2026

Adoption of the Annual Plan for the Financial Year 2026/27

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To present the Annual Plan 2026/27 to Council for adoption.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

1. That in accordance with Section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council adopts the Annual Plan 2026/27 (Annex A).
2. That the Chief Executive be authorised to approve any final edits required to the Annual Plan 2026/27 in order to finalise the document.

Report prepared by:

Joel Richards, Lisa Thomas

Chief Financial Officer, Strategy Manager

Approved for submission by:

Shayne Harris

Chief Executive

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 According to section 95(5) of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act), the purpose of the Annual Plan is to:
- (a) contain the proposed annual budget and funding impact statement for the year [of the long term plan] to which the annual plan relates; and
 - (b) identify any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the local authority's long-term plan in respect of the year; and
 - (c) provide integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority; and
 - (d) contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community.
- 1.2 The 2026/27 Annual Plan is year 3 of the 2024-34 Long-term Plan (LTP). The average rates increase forecast for year 3 of the LTP was 7.27%, excluding growth of 1.5%.
- 1.3 The base budget for the Annual Plan was presented at the 19 November 2025 Council workshop, along with a total of 18 internal and external initiative requests for consideration by elected members. This workshop provided elected members with an opportunity to request additional information that would aid in their decision-making. The additional information sought was then incorporated into initiative templates that were included in the agenda for the 3 December 2025 Council meeting.
- 1.4 At the 3 December 2025 Council meeting, Council passed resolutions supporting ten capital budget initiatives and seven operational budget initiatives. Council also resolved to support the Feilding Aerodrome by way of a loan of up to \$185k for up to five years. Council also agreed to remove the resilience reserve and self-insurance reserve (\$744k) from the draft Annual Plan 2026/27. Following this meeting, the proposed rates increase for the 2026/27 financial year was 6.52% (excluding growth of 1.5%).
- 1.5 At the 17 December 2025 Council meeting council determined that the Annual Plan 2026/27 does not contain any significant or material differences from year 3 of the Long-term Plan 2024-34. In accordance with section 95(2A), Council resolved that consultation was not required, and that following adoption of the Annual Plan 2025/26 Council would inform the community of the outcome through its normal engagement channels.
- 1.6 In March 2026, elected members requested that the proposed rates increase be revisited before final decisions are made. This reflected concerns about the affordability of the proposed increase in the context of rising fuel costs and broader cost-of-living pressures. Consideration was also given to alignment of the proposed rates increase with rates increases being signalled by other councils in the region. Officers were directed to reassess the proposed rates requirement and to identify opportunities to reduce the overall increase, while maintaining agreed levels of service.

- 1.7 At the 1 April 2026 Council workshop, officers outlined proposed budget adjustments to achieve a proposed rates increase of 5.8%. The outcome of this workshop was a directive to achieve a rates increase of 4.9% (excluding growth), to be achieved by considering the following:
- Revising of discretionary budgets
 - Reconsidering new initiatives
 - Rephrasing of planned projects.
- 1.8 At the 15 April 2026 Council workshop, elected members were presented with two options to achieve a rates increase of 4.9%. being:
- To delay the Feilding Freight Movement and Intersection Demand Business Case for consideration as part of the 2027-37 Long-term Plan; and
 - To reduce the budget for the District Plan, Growth and Strategic Planning reviews by \$100k.
- 1.9 These proposed changes were supported by elected members. The combined effect of the changes made to the draft budget as a result of elected member direction at the 1 April and 15 April 2026 Council workshops, is a total rates increase for the 2026/27 Annual Plan (Annex A) of 4.9% (excluding growth of 1.5%). Council was satisfied that the changes made to the budget to achieve this rates increase were not significant or material and therefore did not trigger the need for public consultation.
- 1.10 Also of relevance to the Annual Plan 2026/27 is Council’s review of fees and charges. Council consulted on Planning, Environmental Health and Development Contributions fees and charges from 6 March to 6 April 2026. No submissions were received. Decisions on fees and charges are relevant to the Annual Plan as the public component of funding split for these activities is recovered through rates. Council’s fees and charges were adopted by Council at the 15 April 2026 Council meeting, subject to corrections tabled at the meeting. Council also delegated authority to the Chief Executive to approve any minor edits to the Fees and Charges prior to publication.
- 1.11 A copy of the designed Annual Plan 2026/27 is attached as Annex A to this report and is now ready for adoption by Council. The Annual Plan is required to be adopted by 30 June 2026.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 All of Council’s strategic priorities (community outcomes) are relevant to this decision on the Annual Plan 2026/27. Of particular relevance are Council’s priorities of “Value for money and excellence in local government,” and “A future planned together.” The

decision concerns how Council will prudently manage its financial resources and remain accountable to the community.

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

3.1 The draft Annual Plan 2026/27 requires a total increase in rates of 6.4% compared to the Annual Plan 2025/26. However, due to anticipated growth across the District of 1.5%, the total rates required will be distributed across more ratepayers, making the total rates increase for existing ratepayers 4.9%.

3.2 This is the third year of the roading differential change as agreed in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. In general, the change to the roading differential results in increased rates for rural properties and a reduction in rates for Feilding residential properties, industrial/commercial properties, Feilding CBD properties and utilities. As this is the final year of the rebalancing the roading differential is now equal under all rating categories.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

4.1 The key risks associated with the adoption of the Annual Plan include:

- A risk of the Annual Plan including inaccurate information.
- A risk that the proposed rates increase may be unaffordable for certain members of the Community and may result in poor publicity for Council.

4.2 Council has an “averse-minimalist” approach to legal compliance risk and adopts a cautious approach to financial risk. Council mitigates the risk of inaccurate information through its quality assurance processes. This includes internal peer review, particularly of financial information, as well as careful checking by the Executive Leadership Team prior to being presented to Council for adoption. In addition, following adoption, the 2026/27 Annual Plan document will be reviewed by an external professional proofreader prior to being published on Council’s website.

4.3 The proposed rates increase is less than the increase that was forecast for year 3 of the Long-term Plan 2024-34. However, any increase to rates has affordability impacts can be viewed unfavourably by the community, particularly given the current financial climate.

4.4 As outlined in paragraph 1.11, the Annual Plan 2026/27 must be adopted by 30 June 2026. Any delay in the adoption of the plan impacts on Council’s ability to strike rates for the new financial year. Should Council identify any errors in the contents of the Annual Plan or agree to make any minor edits to the plan prior to its publication, recommendation 2 of this report delegates authority to the Chief Executive to make these on Council’s behalf. This means that the adoption of the Annual Plan does not need to be delayed for the sake of minor edits.

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 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 As there were no material changes from year 3 of the Long-term Plan 2024-34 public consultation was not required. As outlined in paragraph 1.5 above, following adoption of the Annual Plan 2026/27 Council will inform the community of the outcome through its normal engagement channels.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 The operational implications of this decision are outlined throughout the Annual Plan. Approval of the proposed budget amendments will enable the delivery of the work programme as planned. Should any amendments not be approved, the relevant activities and projects may need to be deferred, re-prioritised, or delivered within existing budgets.
- 6.2 If those capital initiatives seeking to bring forward budget from later years are not approved, this will have operational implications in terms of loss of continuity as works will not be able to continue as planned.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 The financial implications for Council are detailed in the Annual Plan 2026/27 document.
- 7.2 Capital projects approved as part of the 2026/27 Annual Plan have ongoing operational budget, including depreciation and interest costs, from the time of capitalisation. However, these costs are not considered to be significant. These impacts will occur from the time of capitalisation.
- 7.3 Operational budget items approved as part of the 2026/27 Annual Plan will have no significant operational impact. However, some new initiatives, such as free WiFi for community libraries, legal budget for water services bylaw reviews, and rural community limestone footpath maintenance, do have an expectation of ongoing financial budget.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 The sections of the Local Government Act 2002 related to the Annual Plan are:
- Section 76 - Decision-making
 - Section 77 - Requirements in relation to decisions

- Section 78 - Community views in relation to decisions
- Section 79 - Compliance with procedures in relation to decisions
- Section 80 – Identification of inconsistent decisions
- Section 82 - Principles of consultation
- Section 82A - Information requirements for consultation required under this Act
- Section 95 - Annual Plan
- Section 95A - The purpose and content of consultation document for the Annual Plan
- Section 96 - Effect of resolution adopting long-term plan or Annual Plan

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

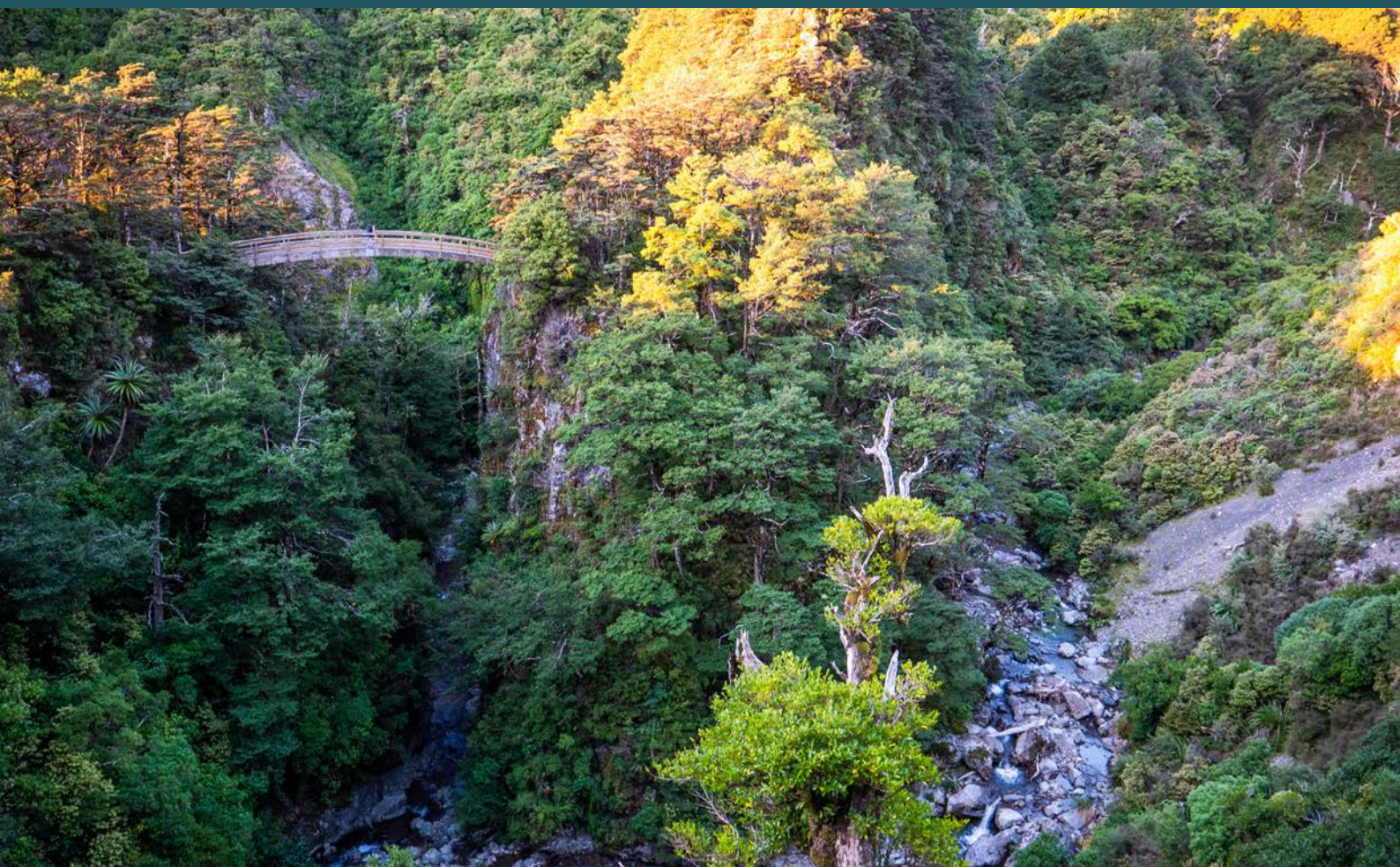
- 9.1 Following the adoption of the 2026/27 Annual Plan, information about the plan will be disseminated to the public through Council’s normal engagement channels.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- Annex A - Annual Plan 2026/27

Annual Plan Mahere Ā-Tau

2026/27



Council Priorities Ngā Whāinga Matua

Below you'll see our priorities for the next 10 years. Have a look at how we plan to make the Manawatū District a productive and vibrant place to live, work, visit and invest.

Kei konei ngā matawhānui, ngā whāinga me ngā kaupapa matura hei whakatutuki, haere ake nei.



A place to belong and grow
He kāinga e ora pai ai te katoa

We provide leisure and sports facilities and support community activities to encourage social and cultural wellbeing for everyone.



A future planned together
He kāinga ka whakamaherea tahitia tōna anamata e te hāpori tonu

We work with all parts of our community to plan for a future everyone can enjoy.



An environment to be proud of
He kāinga ka rauhītia tōna taiao

We protect and care for Manawatū District's natural and physical resources.



Infrastructure fit for future
He kāinga ka tūwhenua tonu ōna pūnahanga, haere ake nei te wā

We ensure the Manawatū District has infrastructure (water, roads, etc.) that meets the needs of the community now and into the future.



A prosperous, resilient economy
He kāinga ka tōnui tōna ōhanga

We aim to make the Manawatū District a great place to live, to visit and to do business.



Value for money and excellence in local government
He kāinga ka eke tōna kāwanatanga ā-rohe ki ngā taumata o te kairangi

We take pride in serving our communities. We focus on doing the best for the district.

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Makino Precinct

A Message from the Mayor and Chief Executive

He kupu nā te Kahika me te Tumu Whakarae



Welcome to Manawatū District Council's Annual Plan 2026/27

This Annual Plan continues the work set out in Year Three of our Long-term Plan 2024–2034. It reflects a balanced approach ensuring we invest in the essential infrastructure our District relies on, while continuing to deliver the services that support our communities every day. It's about meeting the needs we see now, while also planning ahead for the future.

We know that rising costs, both globally and locally, are putting pressure on many households. The Manawatū District is not immune to these challenges. With that in mind, we've worked hard to keep affordability front of mind, while still maintaining the quality of life our communities value. The total rates increase for 2026/27 is 4.9%, which is lower than the 7.3% originally forecast in the Long-term Plan.

In this plan, you'll see the key projects we're continuing to deliver, along with any changes to what we had originally planned. It also covers the essential services we provide every day like maintaining our roads, caring for parks and reserves, and delivering programmes and services through our libraries and Makino Aquatic Centre.

Importantly, the plan provides a clear and transparent view of Council's finances, how we are managing public funds, and where we are investing to support a District that continues to grow and stay well connected.

There's a lot to be proud of in our District, and we are looking forward to continuing this work alongside our communities in the year ahead.

Michael Ford
Mayor

Shayne Harris
Chief Executive

What is the Annual Plan? He aha te Mahere ā-Tau?

The Annual Plan sets out what Council plans to do in the coming financial year and how these activities will be funded. It provides an update on the work programmes and budgets outlined in Year 3 of Council's 2024-34 Long-term Plan.

Council's planning and reporting follows a three-year cycle. Every three years, we develop a Long-term Plan (LTP), which sets out Council's direction, projects, and budgets for the next ten years. The first year of the LTP

also serves as the Annual Plan for that year.

In the two years that follow, Council prepares an Annual Plan. These plans outline any changes to the work programme or budgets for the upcoming year and highlight the key projects and activities that will be delivered.

Council reports on progress through the Annual Report, which reviews how well Council performed against the goals and measures set out in the LTP and Annual Plan.

How to read the Annual Plan

Te pānui i te Mahere ā-Tau

This Annual Plan is designed to help you quickly understand what Council is doing in 2026/27, what has changed, and how it affects you.

You can read this document from start to finish, or go straight to the sections that interest you most:

- **Getting on with the Plan:** Outlines the major projects and activities Council is delivering this year.
- **Fast-tracking Existing Projects:** Highlights projects from the Long-term Plan that are being delivered earlier than planned.
- **Changes to the Plan:** Summarises new initiatives and areas of work for 2026/27.
- **How will my Rates be Used:** Explains how Council receives and spends money.
- **Financial Statements and Funding Impact Statements:** Provides detailed financial information, including budgets, forecasts, and how activities are funded.

2024 Long-term Plan 2034

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Long-term Plan 24-34	Annual Plan 25/26	Annual Plan 26/27	Long-term Plan 27-37						

This year

Getting on with the Plan Te Whakatinana i te Mahere

2026/27 is Year 3 of the Long-term Plan 2024–34. The following projects will continue to remain a key focus over the next 12 months.

Maewa Precinct Development

Maewa is a 136-hectare residential growth area on the northern edge of Feilding that will help meet the District’s future housing needs. Over the next 20 years, more than 1,000 new homes are expected to be built within the development, with Council delivering the supporting infrastructure as growth occurs.

During the 2026/27 financial year, Council will continue installing key roading and water services infrastructure in the Roots Street East area to support ongoing residential development.

Council will also complete a key pathway development named Parakaraka, which loops around the stormwater detention basins within Maewa. The pathway has already become a popular walking and cycling destination and will be further enhanced through additional planting of native and exotic species, installation of seating and the construction of lookout points providing views across the Maewa area and surrounding landscape.

Work will also begin on a new pathway connection along the Makino Stream to James Palmer Reserve. This shared pathway will improve connectivity between Parakaraka and North Street, providing easier access for the

wider community to the Parakaraka pathway and Awa Park, while also helping Maewa residents better connect to the Feilding town centre.

Council is continuing development of Korotangi Park, a new neighbourhood park within the Maewa suburb. The park currently features a shared pathway loop, native and exotic specimen trees, and the early development of amenity turf areas. During 2026/27, Council will install a secure off-leash dog exercise area, children’s play equipment, and public toilets. These additions will help create an important recreational and community space for Maewa residents and surrounding neighbourhoods.

Turners Road Extension – Stages 2 and 3

The Turners Road Extension supports economic development in the Manawatū by providing 24 hectares of high-quality industrial-zone land. Stage 3, the final stage of the project, includes a 900-metre section of new road connecting Turners Road through to Darragh’s Road. This stage commenced in May 2026 and is scheduled for completion in July 2027. Stage 1 of the project was completed in 2024/2025 and involved the construction of Turners Road from Kawakawa Road. Stage 2 included the construction of a new bridge, which was completed in April 2026.



Maewa Precinct



Turners Road Stage 2: Bridge Construction



Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant

Feilding Town Centre Refresh

Council is committed to creating a connected, vibrant, and welcoming Feilding town centre that is an attractive place to live, work, visit, and do business.

As part of the 2024–2034 Long-term Plan, Council has committed investment toward refreshing key parts of the town centre to encourage further private investment from building owners and developers. A well-maintained and inviting town centre helps support local businesses, encourages social interaction, and strengthens community pride and economic activity.

During the 2026/27 financial year, Council will continue progressing the initial town centre refresh programme. This includes investigating and planning improvements such as introducing one-way traffic along sections of Ferguson Street and Goodbehere Street while also increasing parking, and enhancing the functionality and appeal of the four quadrants of Manchester Square, including a proposed covered area within the Market quadrant.

Council will also identify and confirm the main retail corridors within the town centre to help guide future improvements and investment.

Before any physical works begin, Council will undertake further engagement with local businesses, stakeholders, and the wider community to help shape the final design and implementation of the key new initiatives.

Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant - Re-consenting

Council is required to hold a resource consent for the discharge of treated wastewater from the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant in Feilding to the Ōroua River. This consent is issued by Horizons Regional Council.

Since the previous Annual Plan, the national wastewater regulations have changed. The Water Services (Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards) Regulations 2025 came into effect in December 2025. As part of this regulatory change, all existing wastewater discharge consents have been granted a two-year extension. As a result, the current river discharge consent for the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant will now expire in November 2028.

Council is reviewing the new national standards and integrating them into its planning for wastewater management across the District and the future river discharge consent renewal application. While a new application will still be required, the timing for the application has changed to reflect the new national wastewater standards and extended consent timeframe.

Notwithstanding the extended consent timeframe, a significant amount of development work associated with the future renewal of the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant river discharge consent will occur over the next 12 months. This includes assessing compliance with the new national standards and making any changes required to Council's wastewater operations.

Council's overarching goal remains to minimise the environmental impact of treated wastewater in waterways, while balancing affordability and achievability.

Johnston Park

Council continues working alongside rugby clubs to assess and improve facilities at Johnston Park. These improvements will support rugby, as well as the other sporting codes and community groups that use the park.

During the 2026/27 financial year, investment will focus on maintaining fit-for-purpose playing fields, changing facilities and supporting infrastructure, ensuring the park continues to meet the needs of organised sport and recreation users.

Himatangi Beach Development

Development of Kaikokopu Reserve at Himatangi Beach progressed during 2025/26, with initial planting completed and a large-scale community planting event planned with local residents, volunteers and community groups.

During 2026/27, Council will continue landscape development within the Reserve, including the installation of park furniture and other amenities to enhance the reserve for community use and visitors.

Council will lodge a resource consent application with Horizons Regional Council for the construction of a sunset viewing platform and associated dune planting. This project aims to enhance public access and enjoyment of the coastal environment while supporting ongoing important dune restoration and environmental protection work.

Stormwater Upgrades

The District has experienced several significant storm events in recent years, making upgrades to stormwater networks a key priority for Council. Through the 2024-34 Long-term Plan, Council doubled its investment in stormwater upgrades in the villages to \$1 million per year.

Over the next 10 years, Council will continue to prioritise stormwater upgrades in Himatangi Beach and Halcombe, followed by Sanson and Rongotea. In Halcombe, a significant amount of preliminary work has already been completed, including detailed design and iwi and landowner consultation. One parcel of land has been purchased for a detention area, and negotiations are underway with the remaining landowner for the second site. Once land agreements are finalised, Council will progress the Horizons Regional Council resource consent process and commence physical works, which are anticipated to begin in late 2026.

Council has also allocated \$20 million through the 2024-34 Long-term Plan to upgrade Feilding's stormwater network. This work programme includes a mix of short-term improvements and long-term projects. Short-term improvement works have been completed in Glasgow Terrace and Poplar Grove, and detailed design and consenting is progressing so longer-term improvement works can begin in 2028/29. These projects will focus on managing stormwater runoff from the hills to the west of Feilding, providing long-term solutions to stormwater flooding issues in Osborne Terrace and Poplar Grove. Negotiations with landowners in Poplar Grove are nearly complete, with physical works expected to begin during 2026/27.



Johnston Park, Feilding

Community Facility Planning and Investment

Council is planning for the future development of community facilities across the District by preparing a prospective investment portfolio to inform the next Long-term Plan.

A recent needs analysis has identified unmet demand for indoor sport and recreation space, including court-based facilities, within the District. In response, Council is investigating future facility options that could support growing participation in indoor sports and recreation activities.

Council is also engaging with community groups, organisations, and individuals to better understand demand for cultural, performing, and creative arts spaces and activities. This information will contribute to a broader needs analysis report that will help identify future opportunities for community facility investment.

In addition, Council is assessing future aquatics needs across the District. Demand for aquatic recreation, sport, learn-to-swim programmes, and rehabilitation activities is growing at pace, and Council is preparing an aquatics demand report and associated planning documents to better understand future requirements.

Together, these reports and supporting information will help Council make informed long-term investment decisions that respond to community needs, support wellbeing and participation, and recognise the wider social and economic benefits these facilities provide to the District.



Rongotea Stormwater Pump Station



Makino Aquatic Centre

Fast-tracking Existing Projects Te Whakateretere Hinonga

In some cases, it makes sense to deliver planned projects earlier than originally scheduled. This section outlines projects where funding or delivery timeframes have been brought forward to respond to growth, manage risk, take advantage of efficiencies, or deliver improved outcomes for communities. These projects were included in the 2024–34 Long-term Plan but will now be delivered earlier than originally planned.

Ōroua River Shared Pathway

Council is committed to supporting people of all ages and abilities to enjoy and use the District’s pathway network. The Ōroua River Shared Pathway project will connect existing pathways and contribute to a wider plan for a continuous walking and cycling route alongside the awa (river).

The pathway will improve access to recreational spaces, support active transport, and strengthen connections between existing track networks, including Awahuri Forest Kitchener Park and Council-owned land near the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant in Feilding.

During the 2026/27 financial year, Council will continue progressing the first stage of the project, including purchasing land required to complete key pathway connections.

To ensure the project continues to progress, Council is proposing to bring forward funding originally planned for 2028/29 into the 2026/27 financial year. This will allow land purchases to proceed, provide greater certainty for the future delivery of the pathway, and support the long-term development of this important recreational and active transport link for the District.



Roots Street Bore, Feilding

Feilding Drinking Water Supply Resilience

Feilding has benefited from a dependable supply of drinking water for many years due to past strategic investment in water supply infrastructure. As the District continues to grow, Council is focused on maintaining a resilient water supply that complies with the New Zealand Drinking Water Standards.

Council has reduced its reliance on the Ōroua River as a water source by developing the Roots Street bore and associated treatment infrastructure. This work has been supported by upgrades to existing assets, including a 2,000 cubic metre reservoir on Turners Road and the relocation of the chlorination treatment process from Awa Street to Campbell Road.

To progress this work in a timely manner, Council will bring forward funding from Year 4 of the Long-term Plan into the 2026/27 financial year. This funding will enable upgrades at the Campbell Road Water Treatment Plant and the connection of the Turners Road Reservoir into the network.

Bringing this work forward will allow the District's water resilience projects to be completed sooner and maintain the existing level of service for drinking water.

Wastewater Centralisation Halcombe to Mt Stewart

The Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant in Feilding treats wastewater to a much higher standard than smaller wastewater treatment plants around the District. The Wastewater Centralisation project involves conveying wastewater from the villages across the District through a network of pipes and pump stations to be treated at the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant in Feilding.

Sanson and Ōhakea Air Force Base are already connected, with Rongotea scheduled to be commissioned in August 2026.

To enable the Halcombe connection to be completed sooner, Council has installed a

3-kilometre section of pipework from Mt Stewart to Mt Biggs School. To complete the remaining work more efficiently, Council will bring forward Wastewater Centralisation capital funding from Year 5 of the Long-term Plan into the 2026/27 financial year.

This will allow the remaining stages of the Halcombe to Mt Stewart section to be delivered earlier, maintaining continuity of construction and reducing exposure to future cost increases. Fast-tracking this work aligns with the current Long-term Plan direction and reflects the faster-than-anticipated progress of the wastewater centralisation programme, enabling improved environmental outcomes and earlier completion of the project.



Rongotea Wastewater Centralisation



Rongotea Wastewater Centralisation

Changes to the Plan

Ngā Panonitanga Mahere

The Long-term Plan continues to guide Council’s work programme, but some new initiatives have been added for 2026/27. This section outlines those changes.

Mt Stewart Development – Stage 2

Council will continue the planting and landscaping programme at Mt Stewart, progressing Stage 2 of an approved Landscape Design Plan. Building on the work that began in 2023/24, this stage will focus on additional native planting and landscape enhancements to further establish and improve the site.

The project is being delivered in partnership with the Missing Wingman’s Trust and RNZAF Base Ōhakea, and will help commemorate those who have served in the Armed Forces. Ongoing development of the area will help improve the appearance of the site while reducing long-term maintenance requirements.

Sandon Cemetery Fencing and Planting

Council will install approximately 300 metres of fencing along the gully behind Sandon Cemetery to exclude stock from the waterway and support environmental compliance requirements.

The fencing will help protect water quality, reduce environmental degradation, and improve the long-term management of the area. The Sanson Community Committee is contributing toward a significant portion of the planting costs,

with Council funding the remaining planting work to enhance the ecological and visual quality of the gully. The project will also help reduce the spread and ongoing management of pest plants within the area.

Community Libraries Open Access and Free Wi-Fi

Council is working to improve access to community library services in rural areas by providing free Wi-Fi and extending access to library spaces outside staffed hours.

With copper network services no longer operating, some rural communities have limited internet connectivity. Providing free Wi-Fi at community libraries will help ensure residents can continue to access online services, information, education, and learning opportunities.

During 2026/27, access control systems will be installed in community halls that house community libraries. This will allow community members to access library spaces outside normal staffed hours and support greater use of Council-owned facilities.

This approach has already been successfully trialled at the Kimbolton Library and reflects the



Feilding Clock Tower



Manawatū Community Hub Libraries

Open Plus access model operating at Te Āhuru Mōwai in Feilding. The initiative will improve equity of access to library services, strengthen support for rural communities, and help ensure community libraries remain accessible and well utilised into the future.

Urban Footpaths and Drainage Improvements

Council has allocated a small budget to install footpaths and drainage infrastructure in selected urban areas to address gaps in service provision. As growth has extended, some areas previously considered rural have become part of the broader urban environment. Upgrading the infrastructure in these areas will ensure a more consistent level of service for all urban ratepayers over time.

The funding allows Council to take advantage of opportunities to complete footpath and drainage improvements when work is already occurring in the roading corridor. Delivering these upgrades alongside planned contractor activity improves efficiency and provides better value for money.

While this programme of work will support improvements to pedestrian safety, accessibility, and drainage where opportunities arise, the available funding is limited, and not all footpath and drainage needs can be addressed immediately. Works will therefore be prioritised as part of wider maintenance and upgrade programmes.

New Footpaths and Safe Crossing Installations

New footpaths and safe pedestrian crossing refuges will be installed at selected locations across the District to improve safety and connectivity. Locations have been identified through community committee input and in areas experiencing residential or commercial growth, helping to link existing neighbourhoods, new developments, and key destinations such as schools, parks, and local centres.

As growth has occurred, demand for pedestrian infrastructure has increased on roads that currently have limited or no footpaths. This project responds to that growth and enables timely investment in pedestrian safety and accessibility.

Himatangi Beach Reservoir Roof Replacement

The steel roof at the Himatangi Beach Reservoir will be replaced as a renewal project to protect the safety and resilience of the local water supply. Without replacement, the reservoir may need to be taken out of service to manage contamination risks, reducing storage capacity and increasing the risk of water shortages, particularly during the summer months when the population of Himatangi Beach increases significantly. Replacing the roof now will maintain drinking water quality and protect supply resilience.

Ranfurly Road Landfill Closure - Earthworks and Boundary Fencing

Council will complete boundary fencing, earthworks, and topsoiling works on part of the Ranfurly Road landfill in line with the existing landfill lease and closure plan. This work will conclude the closure process and will allow the lease and closure requirements to be fully met.

Dangerous Tree Removal

Funding will be allocated to enable the removal of dangerous trees from road corridors across the District. This allows Council to take a more proactive approach to managing trees that may pose a risk to public safety, allowing them to be assessed and removed before they become a hazard to road users and the public.

Rural Community Limestone Footpath Maintenance

Ongoing maintenance will be funded for community limestone footpaths across the District, ensuring these pathways remain safe, usable, and visually tidy. These footpaths provide important local connections and have been developed over time in partnership with communities to support walking and access within rural villages. Maintenance includes activities such as weed control and resurfacing to keep the paths in good condition.

Providing dedicated funding will allow this work to be planned and delivered consistently, rather than being managed on an ad hoc basis. This approach supports continued community use of these pathways and improves their appearance and accessibility.

Legal Review of Water Services Bylaws

Budget has been included for legal advice to support the review of Council’s water-related bylaws to meet the requirements of the Local Government (Water Services) Act 2025. The new legislation changes how councils review and update water services bylaws and requires Council’s drainage, trade waste, and water supply bylaws to be reviewed by August 2027.

This work will help ensure Council meets legislative timeframes, reduces regulatory risk, and keeps its water services regulatory

framework aligned with national requirements. It will also support the development of new regulatory management plans required under the Act.

Sanson Domain – Blokart Trust Resurfacing Grant

Council will provide a one-off contribution toward resurfacing the hardstand areas surrounding the public toilet facilities at Sanson Domain.

The Manawatū Blokart Club has already completed resurfacing of the blokart track using funding secured through third-party grants and contributions from the club’s own reserves. Council funding is being provided to help meet the remaining shortfall and enable the wider resurfacing works to be completed.

The blokart track is an important recreation and sporting facility that supports regular community use as well as major regional, national, and international events hosted at Sanson Domain. These events attract visitors to the District and contribute to local and regional economic activity.

Completing the resurfacing works will improve the overall appearance, accessibility, and functionality of the site for event participants, visitors, and freedom campers using the domain facilities.



Roots Street Water Treatment Plant



Manawatū Community Hub Libraries

Legislative Changes and Operational Pressures Ngā Panonitanga ā-Ture me ngā Pēhanga

Fuel Prices and Council Services Te Utu Hinu me ngā Ratonga Kaunihera

Fuel prices in New Zealand have become unpredictable, with increases driven by global events affecting oil supply. As a country that relies on imported fuel, New Zealand is particularly exposed to these international changes.

While fuel remains available, prices are expected to stay high and may continue to change quickly. This is already affecting households, businesses, and public services across the country.

For Council, fuel is a key cost in delivering everyday services such as road maintenance, waste collection, and water services. Rising fuel prices increase the cost of providing these services and create pressure on already tight budgets.

In response, Council is taking steps to manage these impacts. This includes reducing

non-essential travel and reviewing contracts to understand how increased fuel costs may affect current work programmes. Council is also looking closely at contract terms to see how price increases can be managed.

However, if fuel prices rise beyond what has already been allowed for in our budgets, Council will not be able to absorb these extra costs. In this situation, planned projects may need to be delayed, reduced, or removed to stay within approved budgets.

Council will continue to monitor fuel price movements and assess the impact on operational costs and planned work programmes. Where possible, we will look for opportunities to manage these pressures efficiently while continuing to deliver essential services to the community.



MDC Waste Water Treatment Plant



A Manawatū Farm

Local Government Reform Te Whakahoutanga o te Kāwanatanga ā-Rohe

The Government has recently announced further proposals as part of its local government reform programme, including a “Head Start Pathway” for councils that may wish to consider voluntary amalgamation or reorganisation arrangements. The Government has also confirmed that current regional council governance arrangements will remain in place for the full 2025–2028 term.

At the time this Annual Plan was prepared, further information about the reform programme

and its potential implications for councils was still being developed. No decisions have been made by Manawatū District Council regarding any future reorganisation proposal.

Council will continue to monitor developments and engage with central government and the wider local government sector as more information becomes available. The proposals do not change Council’s planned work programme or service delivery for the 2026/27 year.

Proposed Changes to Local Government Rating Ngā Panonitanga Reiti

The Government has announced its intention to introduce a rates target model for local government, with implementation expected to occur progressively between 2027 and 2029. During the transition period, councils would be expected to consider the target when setting rates, although compliance would not initially be mandatory.

As the detailed framework and methodology for the proposed model are still under development, Council has undertaken preliminary analysis

based on the information currently available. Initial indications suggest Council’s non-three waters rates may be broadly aligned with the proposed target range.

However, the Government’s discussion material indicates the target may be measured on a per capita basis, whereas Council currently sets rates on a per rating unit basis. The final methodology and calculation approach may therefore affect how Council’s rates position is assessed under the proposed model.



Kowhai Park Playground

Rates for 2026/27

Ngā Reiti 2026/27

To deliver Council services and operations in 2026/27, a total rates increase of 6.43% is required. Due to population growth across the District in the last year, the total rates required will be distributed across more ratepayers, so the total rates increase for existing ratepayers for 2026/27 is 4.9%.

It is important to note that the rate change for individual ratepayers will vary based on the location and type of property they own, changes incurred from the current valuation and the Council services they receive.

Individual 2026/27 property rates assessments can be viewed on the Council website or by calling Council.

Individual 2026/27 property rates assessments can be viewed on our website or by calling the Council.



See example rates on page 23



Check out our property and rates search at www.mdc.govt.nz under the Residents tab then look for 'rates'.



Call Council (06) 323 0000 and ask to speak to one of our rating team.

How will my Rates be Used? Te Whakapaunga Reiti

	Feilding Resident	Rural Resident
Property Value	\$580,000	\$800,000
Rates (annual total)	\$4,755.00	\$2,430.00
	Per week	Per week
Rates total	\$91.44	\$46.73
 Wastewater	\$22.10	
 Water Supply	\$9.62	
 Stormwater	\$3.98	
 Feilding Kerbside	\$2.50	
 Rooding	\$12.41	\$16.38
 General	\$12.72	\$8.77
 Parks and Reserves	\$6.84	\$3.10
 Environmental & Regulatory Management	\$3.62	\$3.62
 Makino Aquatic Centre Targeted Rate	\$4.48	\$3.13
 Library Targeted Rate	\$4.87	\$3.40
 Governance & Strategy (Democracy)	\$3.77	\$3.77
 Solid Waste	\$1.79	\$1.79
 Local Halls and Complexes	\$1.83	\$1.83
 Public Conveniences District Wide	\$0.67	\$0.67
 Animal Control	\$0.27	\$0.27

General Rates

General rates are used by the Council to fund activities that are of public benefit and cannot be charged to specific users.

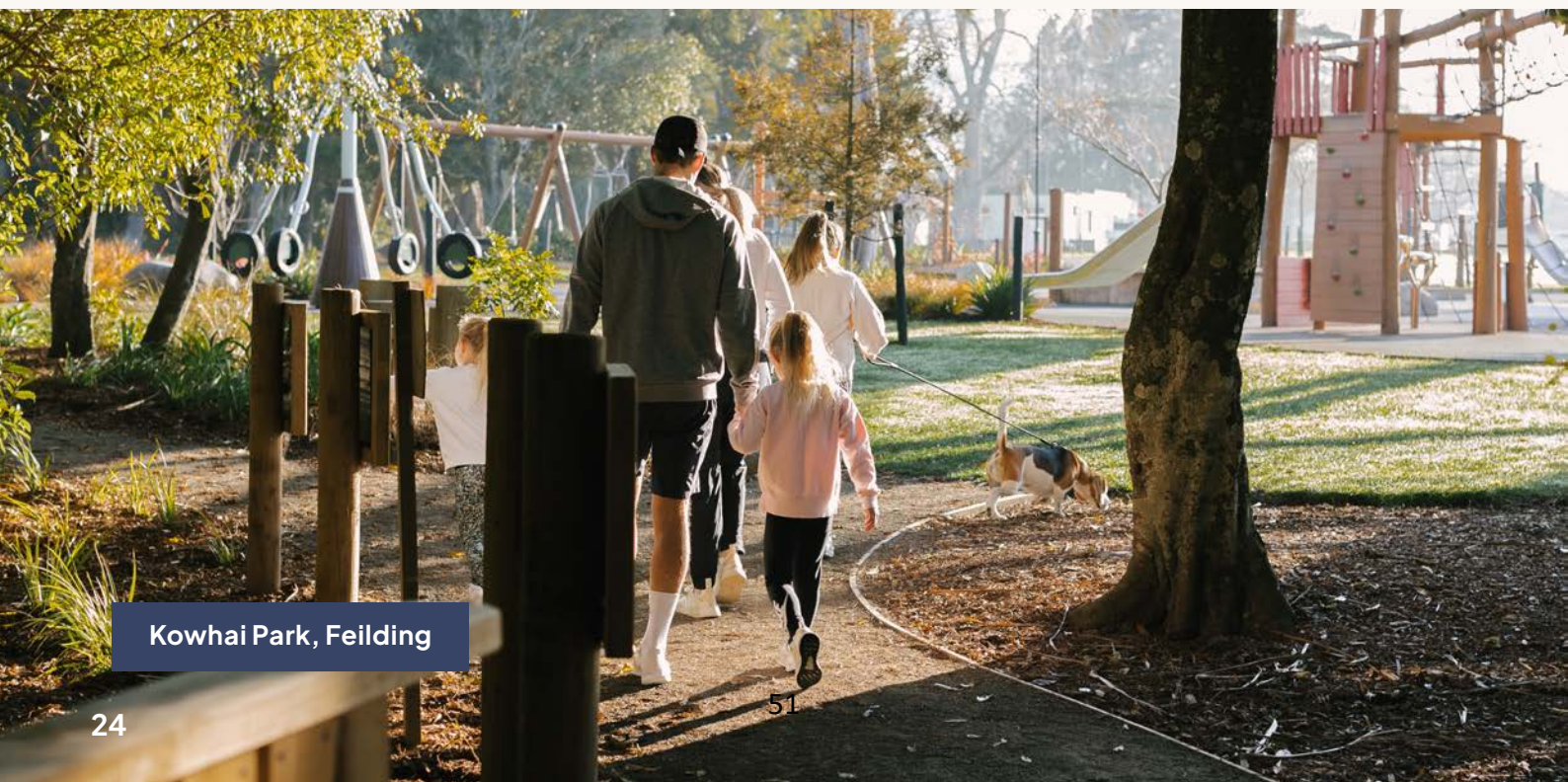
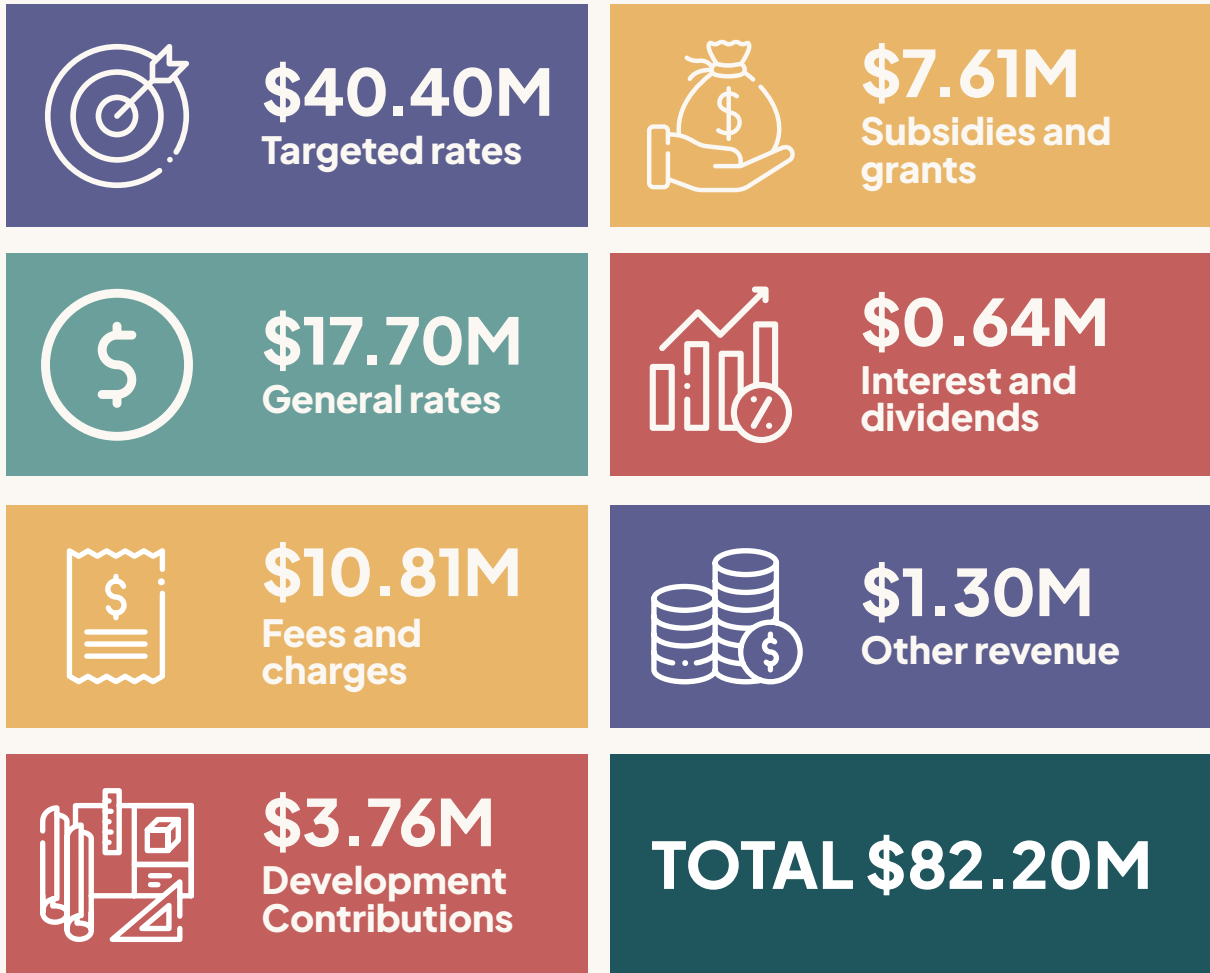
Sample Ratepayers He Taura Kaiutu Reiti

Rating Category	Capital Value (\$)	2025/26 Total Rates (GST Incl)	2026/27 Total Rates (GST Incl)	Annual Change (\$)	Change (%)
Rural - No Services	\$430,000	\$1,696	\$1,756	\$60	4%
Rural - Water, Wastewater, Stormwater Services	\$445,000	\$3,358	\$3,635	\$277	8%
Rural - Wastewater, Stormwater, Rural Water Scheme	\$540,000	\$3,437	\$3,565	\$128	4%
Rural - Farming as one Remission	\$1,310,000	\$2,244	\$2,044	-\$200	-9%
Rural - No Services	\$1,200,000	\$2,852	\$2,957	\$105	4%
Rural - Drainage Scheme - 2 Dwellings, 25 Units Ohakea Rural Water Scheme	\$7,100,000	\$20,778	\$22,391	\$1,613	8%
Rural - No Services, 3 Dwellings	\$8,770,000	\$15,627	\$16,936	\$1,309	8%
Rural - 20 Units Waituna West Water Scheme, 2 Dwellings	\$5,180,000	\$19,703	\$20,691	\$988	5%
Feilding - Residential Full Services	\$625,000	\$4,628	\$4,873	\$245	5%
Feilding - Residential Full Services	\$1,245,000	\$6,426	\$6,516	\$90	1%
Feilding Residential (Multi-unit) *	\$670,000	\$13,113	\$13,576	\$463	4%
Feilding Rural - Restricted Services	\$1,110,000	\$4,472	\$4,752	\$280	6%
Feilding Rural - No Water or Wastewater	\$1,080,000	\$3,267	\$3,382	\$115	4%
Feilding Rural - No Water or Wastewater	\$5,300,000	\$10,558	\$10,472	-\$86	-1%
Industrial/Commercial - No Water	\$740,000	\$4,849	\$5,396	\$547	11%
Industrial/Commercial - Full Services	\$965,000	\$6,184	\$6,710	\$526	9%
Feilding CBD - Full Services	\$221,000	\$4,688	\$4,675	-\$13	0%
Feilding CBD - 2 Wastewater Units	\$620,000	\$7,901	\$7,899	-\$2	0%
Feilding CBD - 4 Wastewater - Water by Meter	\$10,750,000	\$71,044	\$62,373	-\$8,671	-12%

* Includes: 35% small dwelling & 50% charitable org remission.
Volumetric water charging not included

How Council is Funded

Nō whea te moni whiwhi a te Kaunihera



Kowhai Park, Feilding

How Does Council Spend Money?

He pēwhea te whakapau moni a te Kaunihera?



Funding Impact Statement – Rating

TauākīTahua – Ngā Reiti

Council provides local public services and infrastructure that our communities need to thrive. These services are largely funded from the rates that Council charges property owners.

The law that enables councils to collect rates is the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

It is important to Council that our rating system:

- provides enough revenue to cover costs;
- spreads the costs of providing services as fairly as possible;
- meets the legal requirements;
- can be understood by the ratepayer and promotes accountability.

The rating system forms part of Council's Prospective Funding Impact Statements and should be read in conjunction with the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy.

Revenue and Financing Policy

Te Kaupapahere mō ngā Moni

Whiwhi me te Ahumoni

The Revenue and Financing Policy outlines how Council has determined it will fund Council services and activities. The policy includes Council's rating philosophy and summarises the rationale for its rating decisions.

A copy of the Revenue and Financing Policy can be found on the Council website.

Rating System

Te Pūnaha Rēti

Rates are a property tax that are charged each year by the Council.

Council decides what services it will provide in the future and how much it will cost to provide those services. These costs are then distributed amongst the properties in the district.

Individual rates invoices may be different from year to year due to changes in the costs required to provide services, the levels of service being provided and changes to individual property valuations.

Types of rates

There are two types of rates – general rates and targeted rates.

General rates are primarily used by the Council to fund activities where the benefits flow to the district as a whole and the Council considers that the whole community should contribute to the cost.

The Council's general rate is set on capital value and a differential is applied depending on the use, location and zoning of a rating unit.

The Council also sets a uniform annual general charge as an amount per separately used or inhabited part (SUIP) of a rating unit – see explanation on page 30.

Targeted rates are set to fund one or more Council activities and can be set in respect of certain defined categories of land or all land in the District. Targeted rates can be calculated based on different factors including:

- rateable value;
- location;
- number of connections to the rating unit;
- the extent of provision of service to the rating unit; and
- per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit (SUIP).

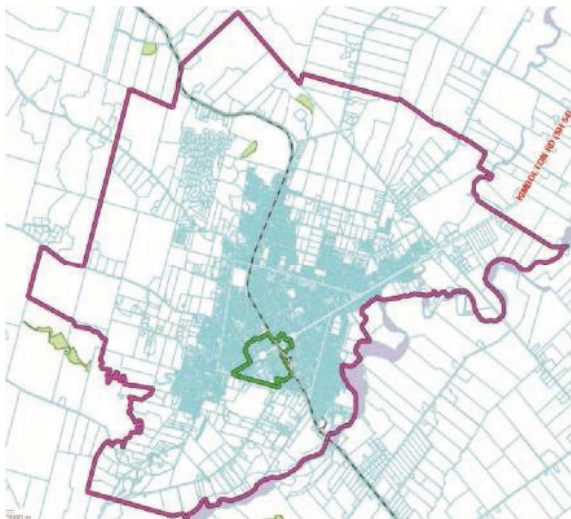
For instance, some of the rates on a property in the Feilding CBD will be rated on a different basis than Feilding rural properties. The types of rates that this “differential category” applies to are the General Rate, the Roading Targeted Rate and the Parks Reserves and Sports Grounds Targeted Rate.

More information on differential categories are below:

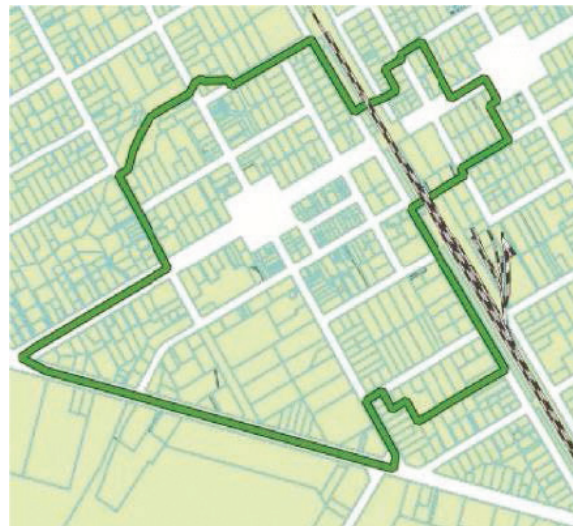
Differential Category	Definitions
1. Feilding Residential	Being all rating units situated within the 2009 Feilding differential rating area (refer to the map below) used solely or principally for residential or farming purposes or is vacant, but excluding those rating units included in Category 2 and 3.
2. Feilding Rural	Being all rating units situated within the 2009 Feilding differential rating area (refer to the map below) being properties zoned Rural 1, Rural 2 or Flood Channel 2 under the Manawatū District Plan.
3. Feilding CBD	Being all rating units situated within the 2009 Feilding Central Business differential rating area (refer to the map below), not used solely or principally for residential purposes.
4. Rural	Being all rating units situated outside the 2009 Feilding differential rating area excluding those rating units included in Category 5, 6 and 7.
5. Industrial and Commercial	Being all rating units zoned Industrial under the Manawatū District Plan and used solely or principally for commercial or industrial purposes excluding those rating units included in Category 3 and all rating units in the 2009 Feilding differential rating area used solely or principally for conducting a business but excluding those rating units in Category 3.
6. Utilities	Being all rating units situated within the Manawatū District that have been identified as infrastructure utility networks.
7. Defence	Land owned or used by the crown as an air force base, army camp, naval establishment or other Defence area.



Mangakino Flow Park, Feilding



Feilding Differential Rating Area 2009 as delineated on the rating plan filed at the Council office on Manchester Street, Feilding



Feilding Central Business District Differential Area 2009 as delineated on the plan filed at the Council office on Manchester Street, Feilding

More detailed maps are available at the Council office

Rating base

Rates are assessed on all rating units as at 30 June of the preceding year. For example the 2026/2027 rates are assessed on rating units at 30 June 2026.

	Rating units in the district	Capital value of the district	Land value of the district
30 June 2026 projection	15,138	14,660,404,490	9,862,817,950



Inspection of Rating Information Database

In accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, the Rating Information Database, the District Valuation Roll and Rates Records are available for public inspection at the Council office, 135 Manchester Street, Feilding, between the hours of 8am and 5pm on all business days of the week, except on Thursday when the Council opens at 9am instead of 8am for staff training purposes.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

All amounts stated in this rating system document are GST inclusive.

General Rate

The Council sets and assesses a general rate on capital value (CV) on all rating units in the district on a differential basis. The CV of the relevant rating unit is multiplied by the relevant rate in the dollar depending on the rating unit's differential category.

While the rates are set on a CV basis, the Council assesses the rates on defence land in accordance with section 22 of the Rating Act.

Differential Category	Basis	Differential	Indicative Rate in the \$ of CV	Indicative Revenue Required \$
1. Feilding Residential	CV	1.00	0.00114	4,335,279
2. Feilding Rural	CV	0.50	0.00057	414,553
3. Feilding CBD	CV	2.25	0.00256	541,980
4. Rural	CV	0.40	0.00045	4,257,597
5. Industrial and Commercial	CV	1.60	0.00182	667,174
6. Utilities	CV	1.60	0.00182	264,479
7. Defence	CV	0.40	0.00045	13,054

The total revenue required from General Rates for 2026/2027 is \$10,494,116.

Uniform Annual General Charge

A uniform annual general charge for the portion of costs associated with the operations and maintenance of animal control, governance and strategy, regulatory, local halls and recreation facilities, public conveniences, district plan and solid waste activities.

Uniform annual general charge (UAGC) is set on the basis of an equal amount on each SUIP and does not vary with the value of the rating unit.

Uniform Annual General Charge per SUIP \$620.00

Total revenue required from Uniform General Charge for 2026/2027 is \$9,380,348.

Definition of a Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a Rating Unit (SUIP)

Several of the rates described above and below refer to a 'SUIP'.

A separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit (SUIP) includes any part of a rating unit that can be used separately or inhabited by either the owner or any other person who has the right to use or inhabit that part by virtue of a tenancy, lease, license or other agreement. As a minimum, the land or premises intended to form the separately used or inhabited part of the rating unit must be capable of actual habitation, or separate use.

Separately used or inhabited part: for a residential rating unit.

Includes a building or part of a building that is intended to be used as, or is able to be used as, an independent residence with independent kitchen with connected cooking facilities.

Separately used or inhabited part: for a commercial rating unit.

Means a building or part of a building that is, or intended to be, or is able to be, separately tenanted, leased or subleased for commercial purposes.

Not rated as separately used parts of a rating unit:

- A residential sleep-out or granny flat without independent kitchen facilities.
- A hotel/motel/hostel room with or without kitchen facilities.
- Individual storage garages/sheds/partitioned areas of a warehouse.
- Individual offices/premises of partners in a partnership.



Kowhai Park

Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations and maintenance of the Council's parks, reserves and sports grounds. This rate funds the remaining balance of operating costs not recovered through the Parks, Reserves, and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate.

The Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units in the district on a differential basis. The capital value (CV) of the relevant rating unit is multiplied by the relevant rate in the dollar depending on the rating unit's differential category.

While the rates are set on a CV basis, the Council assesses the rates on defence land in accordance with section 22 of the Rating Act

Differential Category	Basis	Differential	Indicative Rate in the \$ of CV	Indicative Revenue Required \$
1. Feilding Residential	CV	1.00	0.00057	2,189,936
2. Feilding Rural	CV	0.30	0.00017	125,645
3. Feilding CBD	CV	2.75	0.00158	334,617
4. Rural	CV	0.30	0.00017	1,613,022
5. Industrial and Commercial	CV	1.50	0.00086	315,955
6. Utilities	CV	1.75	0.00100	146,125
7. Defence	CV	0.30	0.00017	4,945

Total revenue required from Parks and Sports Grounds Targeted rate for 2026/2027 is \$4,730,244.

Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate

A uniform targeted rate for operations and maintenance of the Council's parks, reserves and sports grounds with the balance funded via the parks, reserves and sports grounds capital value based targeted rate above.

The Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units in the district as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate \$25.00

Total revenue required from Parks Reserves and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$378,455.



Roading Targeted Rate

A targeted rate to fund a portion of the costs associated with the maintenance and renewals of the District's roads and footpaths with the balance funded via New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) or the roading uniform targeted rate below.

The Roothing Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units in the district on a uniform basis. The capital value (CV) of the relevant rating unit is multiplied by the relevant rate in the \$ depending on the rating unit's differential category.

While the rates are set on a CV basis, the Council assesses the rates on defence land in accordance with section 22 of the Rating Act

Differential Category	Basis	Differential	Indicative Rate in the \$ of CV	Indicative Revenue Required \$
1. Feilding Residential	CV	1.00	0.00094	3,578,116
2. Feilding Rural	CV	1.00	0.00094	684,301
3. Feilding CBD	CV	1.00	0.00094	198,810
4. Rural	CV	1.00	0.00094	8,785,005
5. Industrial and Commercial	CV	1.00	0.00094	344,157
6. Utilities	CV	1.00	0.00094	136,430
7. Defence	CV	1.00	0.00094	26,935

Total revenue required from Roothing Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$13,753,754.

Roothing Uniform Targeted Rate

A uniform targeted rate for the portion of costs associated with the maintenance and renewals of the District's roads and footpaths with balance funded via NZTA or the roading targeted rate above.

The Uniform Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units in the district as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Roothing Uniform Targeted Rate \$100.00

Total revenue required from Roothing Uniform Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$1,513,819.

Makino Aquatic Centre Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations and maintenance of the Makino Aquatic Centre.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in the district on a differential basis, with 60% of required revenue being recovered within the Feilding Differential Rating Area and 40% from Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area, as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Within Feilding Differential Rating Area \$233.00

Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area \$163.00

Total revenue required by the Makino Aquatic Centre Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$3,011,161.

Library Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations and maintenance of the District's libraries.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in the district on a differential basis, with 60% of required revenue being recovered within the Feilding Differential Rating Area and 40% from the Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area, as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Within Feilding Differential Rating Area **\$253.00**

Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area **\$177.00**

Total revenue required by the Libraries Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$3,263,576.

Kerbside Recycling Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance and development of the Council's kerbside recycling service.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in the district as a fixed amount per SUIP that has the kerbside recycling service available (excluding vacant land and properties within the rural differential rating area). Details of the service ability are outlined on Council's website.

Kerbside Recycling Targeted rate **\$130.00**

Total revenue required by the Kerbside Recycling Targeted rate Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$982,049.

Feilding CBD Parking Enforcement Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the cost of providing CBD parking enforcement in Differential Category 3 Feilding CBD.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in the Feilding CBD differential category at \$0.00012 per \$ of capital value.

Total revenue required by Feilding CBD Enforcement Target Rate for 2026/2027 is \$26,885.

Feilding CBD Security Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the cost of providing night time security patrol in the Feilding CBD area.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in the Feilding CBD differential category as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Feilding CBD Security **\$309.00**

Total revenue required by Feilding CBD Security Target Rate for 2026/2027 is \$83,365.

Ultra-Fast Broadband Infrastructure Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the repayment of debt and interest incurred to fund the ultra-fast broadband infrastructure installation in Kawakawa/Darragh Road.

This rate is assessed on all rating units in Kawakawa Road/Darragh Road industrial area within 10 metres of the Ultra-Fast Broadband infrastructure as a fixed amount per SUIP.

Ultra-Fast Broadband Infrastructure **\$704.00**

Total revenue required by Ultra-Fast Broadband Infrastructure Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$16,536.

Stormwater Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance, and development of the Council's stormwater network.

The Stormwater Targeted Rate is assessed as a fixed amount per rating units that are connected directly or indirectly to a stormwater network within: the Feilding Differential Rating Area, or the areas zoned as "village" in the district plan located in Rongotea, Sanson, Himatangi Beach, Tangimoana, Halcombe and Cheltenham.

Stormwater Targeted Rate **\$207.00**

Total revenue required from Stormwater Targeted Rate for 2026/2027 is \$1,760,977.

Rural Land Drainage Targeted Rates

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance and development of the individual drainage schemes.

These rates are assessed on all rating units that are part of one or more of the drainage schemes listed in the table below on a differential basis, based on the land value (LV) of the rating unit.

Detailed scheme maps are available at Council's office.

Category	Rate in \$ of LV	Required Revenue \$
Bainesse drainage district		
Bainesse Class A	0.000890	12,881
Bainesse Class B	0.000430	8,050
Bainesse Class C	0.000350	3,220
Makowhai drainage district		
Makowhai Class A	0.000170	4,564
Makowhai Class B	0.000170	3,043
Makowhai Class C	0.000040	1,521
Maire drainage district		
Maire Class A	0.000200	1,946
Maire Class B	0.000090	1,556
Maire Class C	0.000120	1,167
Maire Class D	0.000140	778
Oroua Downs drainage district		
Oroua Downs Class A	0.000740	40,688
Oroua Downs Class B	0.000360	30,516
Oroua Downs Class C	0.000210	20,344

Total revenue required from Rural Land Drainage Targeted Rates for 2026/2027 is \$130,275.

Wastewater Disposal Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance and development of the Council's wastewater network.

The Wastewater Disposal Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units either connected, or capable of connection, to the Council's wastewater network, and is assessed on differential basis based on the level of wastewater service provided to the rating unit.

Connected

A charge for each toilet or urinal, that is connected to Council's wastewater network, excluding restricted service or those that have chosen volumetric charging. Any SUIP that is used exclusively or principally as a residence will be charged for one toilet for each residence.

Available

50% of the connected rate per rating unit that is not connected but is capable of being connected to Council's wastewater network as the reticulations system is within 10 metres of the rating unit.

Restricted

80% of the connected rate for each toilet or urinal, that is connected to Council's wastewater network, receiving a restricted service. Any SUIP that is used exclusively or principally as a residence will be charged for one toilet for each residence. This includes Mount Taylor and Sanson.

Wastewater disposal Connected
\$1,149.00 per SUIP

Wastewater disposal Available
\$574.50 per rating unit

Wastewater disposal Restricted
\$919.00 per SUIP

Total revenue required from Wastewater Disposal Targeted Rates for 2026/2027 is \$10,033,103.

Water Supply Targeted Rate – Urban

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance and development of the Council's water supply network (excluding rural water schemes).

The Water Supply Targeted Rate is assessed on all rating units either connected, or capable of connection, to the Council's water supply network (excluding those properties connected to a rural water supply scheme) and is assessed on differential basis based on the level of water service provided to the rating unit.

Connected

A charge for each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit that is connected to Council's water supply network, excluding restricted service, extraordinary connections or those that have chosen volumetric charging.

Available

50% of the connected rate per rating unit that is not connected but is capable of being connected to Council's water supply network as the reticulations system is within 10 metres of the rating unit.

Restricted

80% of the connected charge for each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit that is connected to Council's water supply network, receiving a restricted service. This includes Mount Taylor and Sanson

Water supply Connected
\$500.00 per SUIP

Water supply Available
\$250.00 per SUIP

Water supply Restricted
\$400.00 per SUIP

Total revenue required from Water Supply – Urban Targeted Rates for 2026/2027 is \$3,733,914

Volumetric Water Charges (water by meter)

The Volumetric Water Charges are assessed on rating units that are extraordinary water supply users (as defined in Council's Bylaws) and those that have chosen volumetric charging. The rates are assessed on a differential basis based on the level of service provision (connection size and number of connections).

Connection size	Charge per connection
15 mm to 50 mm	\$869.40
80 mm to 150 mm	\$885.50

Where a rating unit is supplied, in any rating year, in excess of 380 cubic meters, an additional consumption charge of \$2.37 per cubic meter of water supplied in excess of 380 cubic metres will be charged.

Total revenue required from Volumetric Water Charges for 2026/2027 is \$2,054,198.

Water Supply Targeted Rates – Rural

A targeted rate for operations, maintenance and development of the individual water schemes.

The Water Supply Targeted Rates - Rural are assessed on all rating units connected to the schemes listed below, based on the units allocated/ supplied.

Stanway/Halcombe Rural Water Scheme - per unit allocated	\$458.00
Waituna West Rural Water Scheme - per unit allocated	\$522.00
Ohakea Rural Water Scheme – per unit allocated	\$355.75
Kiwitea Rural Water Scheme - per unit allocated	\$281.75*
Kiwitea Rural Water Scheme - per additional unit used but not allocated	\$281.75 *

* Kiwitea Rural Water Scheme rates are set and collected by Council and passed on to the scheme in full.

Total revenue required from Water Supply Targeted Rates – Rural for 2026/2027 is \$1,956,922.

Capital Contribution Targeted Rate

The Capital Contribution Targeted Rates are assessed on rating units where ratepayers have signed an agreement to pay their capital contribution over a set term for the Himatangi Beach wastewater scheme and the Rongotea water scheme. Each of the rates is a fixed amount per rating unit, as set out in the table below.

Capital Contribution	Targeted Rate
Himatangi Beach wastewater scheme – twenty year term, 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2033	\$923
Rongotea water scheme – twenty year term, 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2035	\$374

Rates Invoice and Penalty Dates

The rates detailed in this Funding Impact Statement - Rating System (excluding the metered water) are calculated annually and detailed on the Rates Assessment. This covers the year 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027.

Rates are collected in four instalments. Council sends an invoice in August, November, February and May. The due date for payment of the invoice is the last Friday of the month it is invoiced (as set out in the table below).

The following penalties will be added to unpaid rates

- A 10% penalty will be added (on the penalty date as set out in the table below) to the unpaid balance of an instalment that is not paid by the due date (on the payment due date in the table below).
- A 10% penalty will be added on 9 July 2026 to any unpaid rates from previous financial years that remains unpaid on 8 July 2026. Another 10% will be added on 16 January 2027 to any unpaid rates from previous financial years that remain unpaid on 15 January 2027.

If annual rates are paid in full by 27 November 2026, any penalty charged for instalment one will be reversed.

The Council does not accept lump sum contributions in respect of any targeted rates.

All payments received will be allocated to the oldest rates outstanding.

	Instalment One	Instalment Two	Instalment Three	Instalment Four
Invoice Date	1 August 2026	1 November 2026	1 February 2027	1 May 2027
Payment Due Date	28 August 2026	27 November 2026	26 February 2027	28 May 2027
Penalty Date	3 September 2026	3 December 2026	4 March 2027	3 June 2027

Volumetric Water Charges will be invoiced at the end of each quarter and are due for payment on the last working day of the following month.

	Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
Invoice Date	30 September 2026	30 December 2026	31 March 2027	30 June 2027
Payment Due Date	30 October 2026	29 January 2027	30 April 2027	30 July 2027

Individual 2026/2027 property rates assessments can be viewed on the website www.mdc.govt.nz, using the Property and Rates search function, or call 06 323 0000.

Prospective Financial Statements

Ngā Tauākī Ahumoni Whakariterite

Prospective Funding Impact Statements – Activities of Council

The Prospective Funding Impact Statements (FIS) on the following pages give an overview of what it costs to provide Council services and how those services will be funded. The FIS breaks down income and expenditure at operational and capital levels. Operational costs include the ongoing maintenance and

delivery of our services, while capital costs relate to the construction of new assets or extending or renewing existing assets. Capital expenditure is generally ‘one-off’ in nature, whereas operational costs are ongoing. Taking all this information into account, we can see how much money will be required, how much will be spent, and whether we will have a surplus or deficit at the end of the year.

Manawatū District Council Funding Impact Statement – Whole of Council for 2026/27 Tauākī Tahua – Te Katoa o te Kaunihera

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	16,894	19,953	17,697
Targeted rates	36,792	39,189	40,398
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	4,378	3,405	4,393
Fees and charges	10,363	11,538	10,661
Interest and dividends from investments	405	635	637
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	1,178	1,192	1,085
Total operating funding	70,009	75,913	74,871
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	54,494	51,729	55,545
Finance costs	5,055	5,258	5,036
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	59,550	56,987	60,581
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	15,513	16,448	14,745
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	4,038	4,578	3,213
Development and financial contributions	3,613	6,375	3,962
Increase (decrease) in debt	9,668	11,247	13,830
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	17,319	22,201	21,005
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	3,814	11,381	9,528
- to improve the level of service	11,355	7,156	10,408
- to replace existing assets	20,600	18,285	21,603
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(7,990)	4,304	(6,243)
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	27,779	41,126	35,296
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(10,460)	(18,925)	(14,291)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Community Facilities For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Ngā Hanga Whaitake o te Hapori

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	2,657	2,812	2,697
Targeted rates	9,486	9,579	9,899
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	1	1	0
Fees and charges	958	959	1,080
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
	64	69	93
Total operating funding	13,167	13,420	13,769
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	8,548	8,560	8,909
Finance costs	805	1,042	677
Internal charges and overheads applied	2,424	2,478	2,597
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	11,776	12,080	12,183
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	1,391	1,340	1,586
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	197	390	210
Increase (decrease) in debt	329	326	765
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	527	716	975
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	74	398	202
- to improve the level of service	878	264	930
- to replace existing assets	1,474	1,753	1,784
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(509)	(359)	(355)
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	1,917	2,056	2,561
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(1,391)	(1,340)	(1,586)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – District Development For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Whakawhanake ā-Rohe

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	4,672	4,425	4,764
Targeted rates	88	86	87
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	35	36	35
Fees and charges	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	0	0	180
Total operating funding	4,796	4,547	5,066
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	3,224	3,180	3,230
Finance costs	269	252	642
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,002	890	978
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	4,495	4,321	4,850
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	301	226	216
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	(301)	(226)	(216)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	(301)	(226)	(216)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	0	0	0
- to improve the level of service	0	0	0
- to replace existing assets	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(0)	0	0
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	(0)	0	0
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(301)	(226)	(216)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Emergency Management For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Rauhi Hapori i te Ohotata

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	460	545	500
Targeted rates	0	0	0
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	0	0	0
Total operating funding	460	545	500
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	228	246	231
Finance costs	5	5	4
Internal charges and overheads applied	207	238	229
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	439	489	464
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	21	56	35
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	(32)	(21)	(6)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	(32)	(21)	(6)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	0	0	0
- to improve the level of service	0	0	0
- to replace existing assets	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(11)	36	29
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	(11)	36	29
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(21)	(56)	(35)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Governance and Strategy For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Kāwanatanga me te Whakataurau Rautaki

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	4,665	4,976	5,148
Targeted rates	0	0	0
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	59	0	0
Total operating funding	4,724	4,976	5,148
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	1,061	877	877
Finance costs	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads applied	3,658	4,098	4,267
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	4,719	4,975	5,144
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	5	1	5
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	0	0	0
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	0	0	0
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	0	0	0
- to improve the level of service	0	0	0
- to replace existing assets	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in reserves	5	1	5
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	5	1	5
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(5)	(1)	(5)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Regulatory For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Whakatureture

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	2,417	2,777	2,419
Targeted rates	29	34	23
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	4,797	5,637	4,753
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	74	71	40
Total operating funding	7,317	8,518	7,236
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	3,238	4,090	2,849
Finance costs	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads applied	7,467	4,356	7,908
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	10,706	8,446	10,757
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	(3,389)	72	(3,522)
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	0	0	0
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	0	0	0
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	0	0	0
- to improve the level of service	0	0	0
- to replace existing assets	6	0	0
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(3,395)	72	(3,522)
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	(3,389)	72	(3,522)
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	3,389	(72)	3,522
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Roading Network For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Ngā Ara Waka

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
	220	276	258
Targeted rates	12,657	13,007	13,273
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	3,620	3,212	3,638
Fees and charges	64	64	167
Internal charges and overheads recovered	0	0	0
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	234	237	233
	16,794	16,796	17,569
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	6,274	5,386	6,554
Finance costs	821	998	725
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,657	1,738	1,720
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
	8,753	8,122	9,000
	8,042	8,673	8,569
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	4,038	4,578	3,213
Development and financial contributions	1,266	1,837	1,313
Increase (decrease) in debt	1,465	5,071	5,728
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
	6,770	11,486	10,255
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	1,216	5,519	4,775
- to improve the level of service	2,012	1,796	2,944
- to replace existing assets	7,816	7,316	6,624
Increase (decrease) in reserves	3,768	5,528	4,481
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
	14,812	20,159	18,825
	(8,042)	(8,673)	(8,569)
	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Solid Waste For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Para Totoka

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	1,142	1,165	1,174
Targeted rates	196	836	854
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	722	156	720
Fees and charges	2,405	2,676	2,404
Internal charges and overheads recovered	480	446	505
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	21	21	22
Total operating funding	4,967	5,301	5,678
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	3,318	4,319	4,277
Finance costs	238	295	202
Internal charges and overheads applied	646	1,003	663
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	4,202	5,617	5,141
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	765	(316)	537
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in debt	79	(38)	(117)
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	79	(38)	(117)
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	0	0	0
- to improve the level of service	203	19	19
- to replace existing assets	0	0	0
Increase (decrease) in reserves	640	(372)	401
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	843	(354)	420
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(765)	316	(537)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Stormwater and Drainage For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Wai Ua

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	328	352	376
Targeted rates	1,443	1,543	1,645
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	0	0	0
Internal charges and overheads recovered	440	384	424
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	13	14	13
Total operating funding	2,225	2,292	2,458
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	351	316	314
Finance costs	960	1,320	989
Internal charges and overheads applied	776	507	764
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	2,087	2,142	2,068
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	138	150	390
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	1,249	1,737	1,405
Increase (decrease) in debt	3,729	3,525	3,822
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	4,978	5,261	5,227
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	1,656	2,758	2,171
- to improve the level of service	2,886	1,772	2,584
- to replace existing assets	116	116	122
Increase (decrease) in reserves	458	765	740
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	5,116	5,411	5,618
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(138)	(150)	(390)
Funding balance	(0)	(0)	(0)

Funding Impact Statement – Wastewater For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Wai Para

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	0	0	0
Targeted rates	7,984	8,039	8,685
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	2,087	2,159	2,128
Internal charges and overheads recovered	1,501	1,551	1,529
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	567	514	369
Total operating funding	12,138	12,262	12,711
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	4,124	3,270	4,131
Finance costs	1,445	1,974	1,520
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,912	3,188	2,006
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	7,481	8,432	7,657
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	4,658	3,830	5,054
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	574	1,871	653
Increase (decrease) in debt	3,196	1,447	1,293
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	3,770	3,318	1,946
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	414	1,668	1,453
- to improve the level of service	4,063	970	1,317
- to replace existing assets	8,067	6,872	9,989
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(4,117)	(2,362)	(5,759)
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	8,428	7,148	7,000
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(4,658)	(3,830)	(5,054)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Funding Impact Statement – Water Supply For 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2027 Tauākī Tahua – Te Whakarato Wai

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Sources of operating funding			
General rates, uniform annual general charge, rates penalties	0	0	0
Targeted rates	5,210	6,347	6,233
Subsidies and grants for operating purposes	0	0	0
Fees and charges	11	0	93
Internal charges and overheads recovered	946	869	934
Local authorities fuel tax, fines, infringement fees and other receipts	5	5	4
Total operating funding	6,171	7,221	7,264
Applications of operating funding			
Payments to staff and suppliers	1,843	1,718	1,697
Finance costs	551	703	440
Internal charges and overheads applied	1,720	2,600	1,912
Other operating funding applications	0	0	0
Total applications of operating funding	4,113	5,021	4,049
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	2,057	2,200	3,215
Sources of capital funding			
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Development and financial contributions	327	541	381
Increase (decrease) in debt	604	2,658	3,008
Gross proceeds from sale of assets	0	0	0
Lump sum contributions	0	0	0
Other dedicated capital funding	0	0	0
Total sources of capital funding	930	3,199	3,388
Applications of capital funding			
Capital expenditure			
- to meet additional demand	454	1,039	927
- to improve the level of service	1,177	2,300	2,578
- to replace existing assets	2,285	1,413	2,177
Increase (decrease) in reserves	(928)	648	923
Increase (decrease) of investments	0	0	0
Total application of capital funding	2,988	5,399	6,603
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(2,057)	(2,200)	(3,215)
Funding balance	0	0	0

Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense Te Tauākī Matapae mō Ngā Moni Whiwhi me ngā Whakapaunga

	Note	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Revenue				
Rates revenue		53,686	59,142	58,095
Financial revenue		405	635	637
Subsidies and grants		8,416	7,983	7,607
Development and financial contributions		3,613	6,375	3,962
Other revenue		11,540	12,731	11,747
Other gains/(losses)		193	320	160
Total revenue	1	77,854	87,186	82,207
Expenditure				
Personnel costs		16,234	17,395	16,733
Depreciation and amortisation	2	27,009	31,048	29,200
Finance costs		5,055	5,258	5,036
Other operating expenses		38,260	34,335	38,812
Total operating expenditure	1	86,558	88,036	89,781
Operating surplus/(deficit) before tax		(8,705)	(850)	(7,574)
Income tax expense		0	0	0
Net surplus/(deficit) after tax	3	(8,705)	(850)	(7,574)
Other comprehensive income and expense				
Gains on the revaluation of property, plant and equipment		33,485	25,734	25,734
Impairment losses on restricted buildings through other comprehensive revenue and expenses		0	0	0
Gains/(losses) on financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive revenue		0	0	0
Total other comprehensive income and expense		33,485	25,734	25,734
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year		24,780	24,884	18,160

Prospective Statement of Financial Position Te Tauākī Matapae mō Te Tūnga Ahumoni

	Note	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Assets				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents		7,455	9,047	2,081
Accounts receivable		8,741	6,317	9,252
Investment in Council Controlled Entities		295	199	1,599
Inventory		0	0	0
Other financial assets		15	15	15
Non-current assets held for sale		0	0	0
Total current assets		16,506	15,578	12,948
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment		1,303,190	1,334,536	1,340,836
Intangible assets		86	69	77
Investment in associate		1	1	1
Investment in Council Controlled Entities		8,854	8,706	7,306
Other financial assets		115	100	100
Total non-current assets		1,312,246	1,343,412	1,348,321
Total assets		1,328,752	1,358,990	1,361,269
Liabilities				
Current liabilities				
Accounts payable		7,618	11,798	8,544
Provisions		460	196	196
Employee entitlements		1,628	1,654	1,663
Borrowings		4,088	5,396	4,388
Total current liabilities		13,794	19,044	14,791
Non-current liabilities				
Provisions		325	156	156
Borrowings		119,044	126,974	132,573
Total non-current liabilities		119,369	127,130	132,729
Total liabilities		133,163	146,173	147,520
Equity				
Retained earnings	7	558,310	509,219	550,737
Other reserves	7	637,279	703,598	663,011
Total equity		1,195,589	1,212,817	1,213,748
Total Liabilities and Equity		1,328,752	1,358,990	1,361,269

Prospective Statement of Changes in Net Assets/Equity

Te Tauākī Matapae mō Ngā Panonitanga Huarawa, Whai Tūtanga hoki

	Note	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
	5	1,170,809	1,187,931	1,195,589
Total other comprehensive income and expense		24,780	24,886	18,160
		1,195,589	1,212,817	1,213,748

Prospective Statement of Cash Flows

Te Tauākī Matapae: Te Pari me te Timu o ngā Moni

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-Term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash was provided from:			
Receipts from rates revenue	53,686	59,142	58,095
Interest received	400	630	630
Dividend received	5	5	7
Receipts from other revenue	23,570	27,090	23,315
Cash was disbursed to:			
Payments to suppliers and employees	(54,494)	(51,729)	(55,545)
Interest paid	(4,889)	(5,121)	(4,477)
Income tax paid	0	0	0
Goods and services tax (net)	0	0	0
Net cash from operating activities	18,278	30,016	22,026
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash was provided from:			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	0	0	0
Net investments movements	278	1,710	310
Cash was disbursed to:			
Purchase of intangible assets	(13)	(14)	(14)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(35,756)	(36,808)	(41,525)
Net cash from investing activities	(35,491)	(35,112)	(41,229)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Cash was provided from:			
Proceeds from borrowing	13,457	15,335	17,918
Cash was disbursed to:			
Repayment of borrowings	(3,789)	(4,088)	(4,088)
Net cash from financing activities	9,668	11,247	13,830
Net (decrease)/increase in cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts	(7,545)	6,151	(5,373)
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at the beginning of the year	15,000	2,896	7,455
Cash, cash equivalents and bank overdrafts at the end of the year	7,455	9,047	2,081

Notes to the Financial Statements

He kupu Whakamahuki mō Ngā Tauākī Ahumoni

Note 1

Reconciliation of Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense to the Funding Impact Statement (FIS)

The Funding Impact Statements (FIS) throughout the document are prepared in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014. They do not comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices (GAAP). However, the core financial statements (prospective statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, prospective statement of changes in net assets / equity, prospective statement of financial position and the prospective statement of cash flows) are prepared in compliance with GAAP. The following is a reconciliation between the revenue and expenditure shown in the prospective statement of comprehensive revenue and expense and the Council's overall Funding Impact Statement.

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Operating Revenue in the FIS	70,009	75,913	74,871
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	4,038	4,578	3,213
	3,613	6,375	3,962
Vested Assets	0	0	0
Net gain and losses not included in FIS	193	320	160
	0		0
Total Revenue in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	77,854	87,187	82,207
Applications of Operating Funding in the FIS	59,550	56,987	60,581
Depreciation not included in the FIS	27,009	31,048	29,200
Total Operating Expenditure in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense	86,558	88,035	89,781

Note 2

Depreciation and Amortisation Expense per Group of Activities

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Community Facilities	3,149	3,425	3,379
District Development	0	0	0
Emergency Management	21	0	35
Regulatory	51	72	51
Governance and Strategy	5	1	5
Roading Network	16,417	17,562	17,334
Solid Waste	151	183	176
Stormwater and Drainage	845	1,054	932
Wastewater	3,267	4,037	3,500
Water Supply	2,253	3,282	2,496
Support Services	851	1,431	1,293
Total Depreciation and Amortisation	27,009	31,048	29,200

Note 3

Explanation of Net Operating Surplus (Deficit) after tax

Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2002 requires Council to ensure projected operating revenues are set at a level sufficient to meet that year's projected operating expenses. The table below details the make up of the net surplus/(deficit) as detailed in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Net surplus/(deficit) after tax	(8,705)	(848)	(7,574)
The surplus/(deficit) consists of the following			
Roading subsidy received from NZ Transport Agency to fund capital expenditure	4,038	4,578	3,213
Subsidies and grants for capital expenditure	0	0	0
Capital contributions and connection fees used to fund capital expenditure	194	1,206	201
Development contributions recognised as revenue but used to fund past or future capital expenditure in relation to growth	3,419	5,169	3,761
Depreciation not funded			
- Rooding (renewal funded by NZTA subsidy)	(8,373)	(8,956)	(8,840)
- Parks (only 50% of depreciation is funded)	(365)	(555)	(459)
- Halls (depreciation is only funded on high priority halls, Civic Centre and Te Kawau recreation centre)	(494)	(495)	(500)
- Library (only 50% of depreciation is funded)	(247)	(207)	(279)
- Makino Aquatic Centre (only 50% of depreciation is funded)	(309)	(271)	(231)
- Property (only 50% of depreciation is funded)	(172)	(170)	(197)
Loans principal repayments funded from rates			
- CBD redevelopment loans	142	144	156
- Ultra Fast Broadband	7	4	7
Gain on property recognised	193	320	160
Write back of the impairment of debt	0	32	0
Vested Assets	0	0	0
Use of reserves and special funds (including interest on growth account, subdivision development etc.)	(6,739)	(1,615)	(4,566)
	(8,705)	(848)	(7,574)

Note 4

Water by meter included in Rates

Water charged by volume (water by meter) is included in rates revenue in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense and in targeted rates in the Funding Impact Statements. The amount of water by meter included in rates is:

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Water by meter included in rates	1,630	1,517	1,786

Note 5

Opening Balances

The opening balances for 1 July 2026 do not agree with the closing balances for the prior year's Annual Plan (30 June 2025). The 2025/26 Annual Plan was approved by Council in June 2025 and the annual plan closing balances reflect the planned position at that time. Actual results for the 2025/26 financial year do not always reflect the position included in the plan. Potential changes include capital projects not progressing and therefore the associated funding is not uplifted, revaluations being different than planned, variances in cash requirements and the resulting impact on equity. To calculate the opening balances for the Long-term Plan we have reforecasted the closing balances at 30 June 2027 to reflect known changes. The main items impacted include cash, investments, property plant and equipment, borrowing and equity.

Note 6

Funding Impact Statements – transfer between operational and capital activities

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
Surplus (deficit) of operating funding	10,460	18,925	14,291
Surplus (deficit) of capital funding	(10,460)	(18,925)	(14,291)
Funding Balance	0	0	0
Loan principal repayments funded by rates	149	148	163
Depreciation funded by rates but transferred to reserve to fund renewal (current and future years)	17,050	20,393	18,694
Operating items funded from the transfer of reserves included in the capital activities	(6,739)	(1,615)	(4,566)
	10,460	18,925	14,291

Note 7

Reserve Fund Movements

Equity is made up of a number of reserves - refer to the Statement of Accounting Policies. The following is a summary of reserve funds over the life of the Long-term Plan for each class of funds.

Retained Earning

Annual Plan	Long-term Plan	Annual Plan
2026	2027	2027
\$000	\$000	\$000

Accumulated Funds

Included in the Accumulated Funds in the balance sheet are two types of reserves. These are separate funds and growth funds detailed below.

Growth Funds

These funds are created from Development and Financial Contributions levied. They are used for growth related expenditure for the creation of community assets. These include roads, parks and reserves, stormwater, wastewater and water supply.

Opening balances	0	0	0
Transfers to reserves	5,737	13,379	11,417
Transfers from reserves	(5,737)	(13,379)	(11,417)
Closing Balance	0	0	0

Depreciation Reserves

These funds are created from depreciation and amortisation funded through revenue sources. These funds are only applied to the renewal of existing assets and for principal repayments of loans.

Opening balances	13,152	12,845	4,588
Transfers to reserves	17,050	20,393	18,694
Transfers from reserves	(25,613)	(19,539)	(19,881)
Closing Balance	4,588	13,699	3,401

Other Reserves

	Annual Plan 2026 \$000	Long-term Plan 2027 \$000	Annual Plan 2027 \$000
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Trusts and Bequests

Funds have been gifted to Council for specific purposes, and in many cases have other restrictions placed on the fund. The purpose of the fund may not be revised without reference to the Courts or a third party. These include the Hook Bequest, Trewin Bequest, Wakerill Trust, Robert Dickson Library Trust, PA Broad Memorial Trust, Historical Trust, Children's Welfare Trust, Robert Dickson Educational Trust, Museum Trust and the Feilding and District Relief Trust.

Opening balances	93	92	92
Transfers to reserves	2	2	2
Transfers from reserves	(3)	(3)	(3)
Closing Balance	92	91	91

Special Funds

These are funds set aside by Council. The Council may alter them without reference to any third party or the Courts. Transfers to and from these reserves are at the discretion of the Council. They include the General Purpose Reserve, Insurance Reserve and the Land Subdivision Reserve.

Opening balances	3,318	3,673	3,318
Transfers to reserves	0	2,361	0
Transfers from reserves	0	0	0
Closing Balance	3,318	6,034	3,318

Revaluation Reserves

These reserves have been created from the revaluation movements of the property, plant and equipment.

Opening balances	600,384	671,740	633,869
Transfers to reserves	33,485	25,734	25,734
Transfers from reserves	0	0	0
Closing Balance	633,869	697,473	659,603
Total other reserves	637,279	703,598	663,011

Annual Plan Disclosure Statement for year ending 30 June 2027

What is the purpose of this statement?

The purpose of this statement is to disclose Council's planned financial performance in relation to various benchmarks to enable the assessment of whether Council is prudently managing its revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities, and general financial dealings. Council is required to include this statement in its annual plan in accordance with the Local Government (Financial Reporting and Prudence) Regulations 2014 (the regulations). Refer to the regulations for more information, including definitions of some of the terms used in this statement.

Benchmark

	Quantified Maximum Limit	Planned Limit	Met
Rates affordability Benchmark			
Income	57,903	56,588	Yes
Increases	8.83%	6.40%	Yes
Debt Affordability			
Net debt as a percentage of total revenue	< 175%	175%	No
Net interest as a percentage of total revenue	< 20%	6.1%	Yes
Net interest as a percentage of annual rates income	< 25%	8.6%	Yes
Liquidity Ratio	> 100%	127%	Yes
Balanced budget benchmark	> 100%	87%	No
Essential services benchmark	> 100%	153%	Yes
Debt servicing benchmark	< 10%	6.4%	Yes

Balanced Benchmark Comment

The Council is required to have a balanced budget. However, there are some permitted exceptions to this situation which must be stated clearly in the Financial Strategy. The main reasons for an unbalanced budget are not fully funding depreciation on non-strategic assets combined with using funding from previous year's surplus (use of reserves).

Net Debt as a Percentage of Total Revenue Comment

Planned debt under this Annual Plan would breach Council's debt cap under the current Liability Management Policy. However, this level of debt will not breach Council's covenants with the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA). Council now holds an AA rating with Fitch Ratings, which would allow Council to borrow up to 280% of revenue for the 2026/27 financial year. The policy will be updated to reflect this updated measure as part of the Long-term Plan process.





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Council

Meeting of 03 June 2026

Business Unit: Finance

Date Created: 08 May 2026

Adoption of the Rates Resolution for Financial Year 2026/27

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The purpose of this report is to set rates, due dates, and penalties for unpaid rates, for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 as required by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

That the Manawatū District Council, in pursuance of the exercise of powers conferred on it by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and any other empowering provisions, resolves to set the following rates on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2026 and ending 30 June 2027:

All rates and amounts expressed are inclusive of goods and services tax.

A. General Rates

Under section 13(2)(b) and 14 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a general rate on every rating unit, assessed on capital value and on a differential basis.

Differential Category	Differential	Rate in the \$ of CV
1. Feilding Residential	1.00	0.00114
2. Feilding Rural	0.50	0.00057
3. Feilding CBD	2.25	0.00256
4. Rural	0.40	0.00046
5. Industrial and Commercial	1.60	0.00182
6. Utilities	1.60	0.00182
7. Defence	0.40	0.00046

B. Uniform Annual General Charge

Under section 15(2)(b) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a uniform annual general charge of \$620 on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

C. Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Targeted Rate

Under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate on every rating unit, assessed on capital value and on a differential basis.

Differential Category	Differential	Rate in the \$ of CV
1. Feilding Residential	1.00	0.00057
2. Feilding Rural	0.30	0.00017
3. Feilding CBD	2.75	0.00158
4. Rural	0.30	0.00017
5. Industrial and Commercial	1.50	0.00086
6. Utilities	1.75	0.00100
7. Defence	0.30	0.00017

D. Parks, Reserves and Sports Grounds Uniform Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for parks, reserves and sports grounds, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit in the district, of \$25.00 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

E. Roading Targeted Rate

Under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a targeted rate on every rating unit, assessed on capital value and on a differential basis.

Differential Category	Differential	Rate in the \$ of CV
1. Feilding Residential	1.00	0.00094
2. Feilding Rural	1.00	0.00094
3. Feilding CBD	1.00	0.00094
4. Rural	1.00	0.00094
5. Industrial and Commercial	1.00	0.00094
6. Utilities	1.00	0.00094
7. Defence	1.00	0.00094

F. Roading Uniform Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for roading, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit, of \$100.00 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit.

G. Makino Aquatic Centre Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the Makino Aquatic Centre set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, assessed on a differential basis described below:

- Within Feilding Differential Rating Area \$ 233.00
- Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area \$ 163.00

H. Library Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the library set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit, assessed on a differential basis described below:

- Within Feilding Differential Rating Area \$ 253.00
- Outside the Feilding Differential Rating Area \$ 177.00

I. Kerbside Recycling Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the kerbside recycling collection service, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

- \$130.00 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit to which the kerbside recycling collection service is available, excluding vacant land.

J. Feilding CBD Parking Enforcement Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the Feilding Central Business District (CBD) Parking Enforcement set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

- \$0.00012 in the dollar of capital value on all rating units situated within differential category 3 (Feilding CBD).

K. Feilding CBD Security Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for Feilding CBD security, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

- \$309.00 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit situated within differential category 3 (Feilding CBD).

L. Ultra-Fast Broadband Infrastructure Targeted Rate

A targeted rate for the ultra-fast broadband infrastructure in the Kawakawa Road/Darragh Road industrial area, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

- \$704.00 per separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit that is within 10 meters of the Ultra-Fast Broadband infrastructure.

M. Stormwater Targeted Rate

A targeted rate on each rating unit in the areas that are located in: Feilding Differential and all rating units zoned as 'village' in the District Plan located in Rongotea, Sanson, Himatangi Beach, Tangimoana, Halcombe and Cheltenham.

This rate is a fixed amount of \$207.00 per rating unit that are connected directly or indirectly to a stormwater network set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.

N. Rural Land Drainage Targeted Rates

Targeted rates, based on land value (LV), for rating units that are part of one of the schemes listed below, for the maintenance and development of land drainage schemes, set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

Category	Rate in \$ of LV
Bainesse drainage district	
Bainesse Class A	0.000890
Bainesse Class B	0.000430
Bainesse Class C	0.000350
Makowhai drainage district	

Makowhai Class A	0.000170
Makowhai Class B	0.000170
Makowhai Class C	0.000040
Maire drainage district	
Maire Class A	0.000200
Maire Class B	0.000090
Maire Class C	0.000120
Maire Class D	0.000140
Oroua Downs drainage district	
Oroua Downs Class A	0.000740
Oroua Downs Class B	0.000360
Oroua Downs Class C	0.000210

O. Water Supply Targeted Rate – Urban

A targeted rate applied on a differentiated basis of provision or availability of service for the reticulation and treatment of potable water through Council’s water network (excluding those properties connected to a rural water supply scheme), set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, of:

Water Supply - Connected	\$500.00 per SUIP
Water Supply - Available	\$250.00 per SUIP
Water Supply - Restricted	\$400.00 per SUIP

P. Volumetric Water Charges

For rating units that have opted for water volumetric charging and extraordinary users of the water scheme under Council’s bylaw, a differential targeted rate based on the level of service provision (connection size and number of connections) to the rating unit (as set out in the table below):

Connection size	Charge per connection
15 mm to 50 mm	\$869.40
80 mm to 150 mm	\$885.50

A water consumption charge set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 for consumption in excess of 380 cubic meters within the rating year of \$2.37 per cubic meter of water supplied.

Q. Wastewater Disposal Targeted rates

A targeted rate applied on a differentiated basis of provision or availability of service for the reticulation, treatment and disposal of sewage and trade effluent, (to properties that are not subject to volumetric trade wastewater charges) set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002,

Wastewater disposal - Connected	\$1,149.00 per rating unit
Wastewater disposal - Available	\$574.50 per rating unit
Wastewater disposal - Restricted	\$919.00 per rating unit

R. Water Supply Targeted Rates – Rural

Targeted rates, set under section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, for the rural water supply treatment, reticulation, and supply of water per unit allocated or supplied to each participating rating unit in the following schemes.

• Stanway/Halcombe Rural Water Scheme – per unit allocated	\$458.00
• Waituna West Rural Water Scheme – per unit allocated	\$522.00
• Ohakea Rural Water Scheme – per unit allocated	\$355.75

- Kiwitea Rural Water Scheme – per unit allocated \$281.75
- Kiwitea Rural Water Scheme – per additional unit used but not allocated \$281.75

S. Capital Contribution Targeted Rate

Where a ratepayer has signed an agreement to pay their capital contribution over a set term, for the Himatangi Beach wastewater scheme or the Rongotea water scheme capital contribution, a targeted rate is set under section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. Each of the rates is a fixed amount per rating unit, as set out in the table below.

Capital Contribution Targeted Rate	Targeted Rate Amount
Himatangi beach wastewater scheme - twenty-year term, 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2033	\$923
Rongotea water scheme - twenty-year term, 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2035	\$374

T. Rates invoice and penalty dates

Rates are set for the year commencing 1 July 2026 and ending 30 June 2027.

Rates will be payable in four equal instalments (except for volumetric water rates) and must be paid by the due date. Payment can be made using online banking, direct debit, credit card through internet or at the Council Office situated at 135 Manchester Street, Feilding between the hours of 8.00am and 5.00pm, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday – 9.00am and 5.00pm Thursday.

If the total annual rates (not including volumetric water rates) are paid in full by 30 November 2026, any penalties added for instalment one will be remitted.

	Instalment One	Instalment Two	Instalment Three	Instalment Four
Invoice Date	1 August 2026	1 November 2026	1 February 2027	1 May 2027
Payment Due Date	28 August 2026	30 November 2026	26 February 2027	31 May 2027
Penalty Date	3 September 2026	10 December 2026	4 March 2027	10 June 2027

Volumetric Water charges will be invoiced at the end of each quarter and are due for payment on the last working day of the following month (as set out in the table below).

	Quarter One	Quarter Two	Quarter Three	Quarter Four
Invoice Date	30 September 2026	31 December 2026	31 March 2027	30 June 2027
Payment Due Date	30 October 2025	29 January 2026	30 April 2026	30 July 2026

U. Instalment Penalty

Under section 57 and 58(1)(a) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, a 10% penalty will be added to any portion of the current instalment (not including volumetric water rates) that remains unpaid after the due date. The penalty will be added on the date set out in the table above in the "Penalty Date" row.

V. Additional Arrears Penalty

A 10% penalty will be added on 9 July 2026 to any unpaid rates from previous financial years that remains unpaid on 8 July 2026. Another 10% will be added on 16 January 2027 to any unpaid rates from previous financial years that remain unpaid on 15 January 2027.

Report prepared by:
Eden Mills
Finance Business Partner

Approved for submission by:
Shayne Harris
Chief Executive

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

1.1 Following the adoption of the Annual Plan for the 2026-27 financial year, Council is now required to adopt the rates resolution for the 2026-27 financial year to fund Council activities for the year.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

2.1 Not applicable as this is a legislative / operational item.

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

3.1 The total increase in rates required to run Council business for 2026/27 is 6.49%. Due to the population growth across the District in the last year, the total rates required will be distributed across more ratepayers, so the total rates increase for existing ratepayers for 2026/27 is 4.9%.

3.2 The setting of the 2026-27 rates is consistent with the Revenue and Financing Policy adopted as a part of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, and the Funding Impact Statement adopted in the 2026-27 Annual Plan

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

4.1 Not applicable.

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 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 has not consulted on the 2026-27 Annual Plan.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

6.1 The setting of the rates allows the planned operating and capital works to progress.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

7.1 The adoption of the rates resolution will enable Council to fund the activities as set out in the adopted 2026-27 Annual Plan

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

8.1 Under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, Council must set rates and due dates for rates for any particular year by passing a resolution of Council. This paper sets out the resolution necessary to enable Council to set and collect rates to fund its operations for the 2026-27 financial year.

Council

Meeting of 17 June 2026

Business Unit: Finance

Date Created: 11 May 2026

Adoption of the Borrowing Resolution for the Financial Year 2026/27

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The purpose of this report is to seek authorisation for the Chief Executive to borrow when necessary to fund the programmes identified in the Annual Plan 2026/27.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

1. That the Council authorises the Chief Executive to borrow new loans up to \$17,918,000 to fund the capital projects identified in the Annual Plan 2026/27.
2. That the Council authorises the Chief Executive to borrow to refinance existing loan facilities as they fall due. Loans can only be refinanced within the terms of the original loan approval as outlined in the financial strategy.
3. That the Council authorises the Chief Executive to negotiate and agree the terms, interest rate payable, type of loan facilities or issues of stock and/or swaps that make up the borrowing and to execute any agreements, documents, and certificates in respect of such loans, facilities, or stock on behalf of the Council.
4. That the borrowing be secured by a Debenture Trust Deed over all rates made from time to time by Council under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002.
5. Council notes that the planned draw down of debt will breach the debt cap under the Current Liability Management Policy. However, due to Councils AA credit rating the planned total debt will not breach covenants with the Local Government Funding Agency.

Report prepared by:
Joel Richards
Chief Financial Officer

Approved for submission by:
Shayne Harris
Chief Executive

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

1.1 Council's borrowing programme is detailed in the Annual Plan 2026/27, which sets out the borrowing requirements in order to fund the capital works programme.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

2.1 Not applicable as this is a legislative / operational item.

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

3.1 In order to finance capital works, the maximum term of the loan is the shorter of the expected life of the asset being acquired/constructed or thirty years whichever is less. However, the current practice is to utilise loan facilities for shorter periods (e.g., five years) and then refinance to utilise the best interest rate terms.

3.2 Council has a loan facility with the BNZ of up to \$10,000,000 that is available for short term funding prior to borrowing from the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA), to use as bridging finance, or for emergency funding in the event of a disaster.

3.3 Loan borrowing will be in accordance with the Liability Management Policy.

3.4 Annual Plan 2026/27 cash flow forecast, and the funding impact statements show a net increase in borrowings of \$13,830,000, This made up of:

3.4.1 New debt funding required for capital projects \$17,918,000,

3.4.2 Refinancing of existing debt as it falls due,

3.4.3 Less scheduled loan repayments of \$4,088,000.

3.5 It should be noted that any capital works requiring debt funding which are carried forward from 2025/26 to 2026/27 will be funded from the 2025/26 debt resolution and would be on top of the noted borrowing in resolution. This has been taken into account calculating the expected closing debt balance as at 30 June 2027 (Section 7.6).

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

4.1 Not applicable

5 Engagement Te Whakapānga

Significance of Decision

5.1 The Council's Significance and Engagement Policy are not triggered by matters discussed in this report. No stakeholder engagement is 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 Community engagement was not undertaken as part of the Annual Plan 2026-27.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 There are no operational implications with this report. The debt referred to within the resolution will allow for the budgeted capital work to proceed.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 The financial impacts of the debt resolution have been allowed for within the Annual Plan 2026/27.
- 7.2 This draw down of debt will result in a breach of Council's debt cap under the current Liability Management Policy. Under this policy Council's debt cap for the 2026/27 financial year would be 175% of revenue which is \$131,648,000. Total planned debt for the end of the financial year is \$136,961,000. This results in a breach of \$5,313,000. However, this level of debt will not breach Council's covenants with the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA). Council now holds an AA rating with Fitch Rating, which would allow Council to borrow up to 280% of revenue for the 2026/27 financial year. This would give Council an effective debt cap of \$218,637,000. The policy will be updated to reflect this updated measure as part of the Long-Term Plan process.
- 7.3 Total new borrowings to fund capital work is \$17,918,000, with a budgeted loan repayments of \$4,088,000.
- 7.4 Refinancing is expected to be \$13,000,000 for some of the existing term debt, with a further \$11,500,000 refinancing due to the short-term nature of the current commercial papers. The short-term borrowing is structured to allow Council to benefit from any low-interest rate options on offer. The short-term borrowing papers may be replaced with fixed term borrowings during the year depending on interest rates and advice from Bancorp Limited.
- 7.5 Closing debt for the 2025/26 year is based on an assumed debt balance of \$123,132,000 at 30 June 2025. This balance is based on the assumption that all capital works are completed.
- 7.6 Total debt balance at 30 June 2027 year is expected to be \$136,961,000.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 The Local Government Act 2002 prohibits all local authorities from borrowing in any currency other than New Zealand dollars (Section 113).

Council

Meeting of 17 June 2026

Business Unit: Community
Date Created: 18 May 2026

Development of Grants Policy

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's adoption of the new Grants Policy and revoke the existing Community Development Policy. The report also introduces the accompanying Community Grants Guidelines, which will provide operational detail and criteria for Council-administered funding programmes.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

That the Council:

1. Adopts the Grants Policy.
2. Revokes the Community Development Policy.
3. Notes that the operational detail, eligibility criteria, assessment processes, and funding priorities for Council-administered funding programmes will be contained within the Community Grants Guidelines.
4. Notes the following proposed funding approach changes for the 2026/27 funding year that will be outlined in the Community Grants Guidelines:
 - a. The Representative Fund will be focused on applicants aged 19 years and under, with tiered funding available for regional, national, and international representation.
 - b. The Community Development One-Off Fund criteria will be clarified to reflect that the "one-off" nature of the fund relates to the funding allocation itself rather than limiting support to one-off initiatives or projects, allowing greater flexibility to support initiatives and services that demonstrate clear community benefit.
 - c. The Events Fund will move to a fully contestable approach, with no specific funding allocations reserved for individual events or organisations.
 - d. The Council-funded traffic management support will continue for Anzac Day commemorations, Rural Day, and the Feilding Christmas Parade for the 2026/27 funding year, with all other event-related traffic management requests to be considered through the Events Fund application process.
 - e. The future structure and administration of the Traffic Management Fund may be reviewed through future Long Term Plan discussions.

- f. The consequential amendments will be made to the Community Committee Policy and Marae and Hapū Development Policy to incorporate relevant funding administration and accountability provisions previously contained within the Community Development Policy.

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 administers a range of community funding programmes intended to support community wellbeing, participation, resilience, local initiatives, and events across the Manawatū District. These funding programmes contribute to Council's broader strategic priorities and community wellbeing outcomes identified through the Long-term Plan and Community Development Strategy.
- 1.2 The current Community Development Policy includes both governance direction and detailed operational information relating to individual funding programmes, including eligibility criteria, assessment processes, funding administration, and other procedural requirements.
- 1.3 Over time, this has resulted in the policy becoming increasingly operational in nature and less flexible to update as community priorities and funding approaches evolve.
- 1.4 The current structure of the policy has been reviewed and a revised approach developed that separates the strategic policy framework from the operational administration of funding programmes.
- 1.5 The proposed Grants Policy focuses on Council's purpose, principles, and overall approach to community funding. Detailed operational information for individual funding programmes will instead sit within a separate Community Grants Guidelines document.
- 1.6 This approach is intended to:
- provide a clearer distinction between governance and operational matters,
 - improve accessibility and consistency for applicants,
 - allow funding criteria and priorities to remain responsive to changing community needs and opportunities, and
 - reduce the need for formal policy amendments for minor operational changes.
- 1.7 As part of this review, information relating to Community Committee and Marae and Hapū funding administration previously contained within the Community Development Policy will

instead be incorporated into the relevant Community Committee Policy and Marae and Hapū Development Policy.

- 1.8 The proposed changes retain Council’s overall commitment to supporting strong, connected, and resilient communities, while introducing several refinements to improve clarity, transparency, equity, and accessibility across the funding framework for the 2026/27 funding year.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 The proposed Grants Policy supports Council’s strategic direction of enabling strong, connected, and resilient communities through transparent and responsive funding programmes.

- 2.2 The policy aligns with the Long-term Plan community outcomes of:

- “A place to belong and grow”, through supporting community participation, connection, and wellbeing, and
- “A future planned together”, through enabling community-led initiatives and partnerships across the district.

- 2.3 The proposal also aligns with the Community Development Strategy vision that the Manawatū District offers “a high quality of life for all residents” and supports Council’s role in encouraging active participation, strengthening communities, and supporting locally led initiatives.

- 2.4 The revised policy structure further supports Council’s objective of delivering services that are accessible, adaptable, efficient, and responsive to changing community needs over time.

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

- 3.1 As part of the review of Council’s community funding framework, an initial review and proposed changes to the framework were presented to Council during workshop discussions in 2025.

- 3.2 During these discussions, it became apparent that the current Community Development Policy had become difficult to navigate, with governance direction, operational processes, eligibility criteria, funding administration, and detailed fund information all contained within a single document. This created confusion around the purpose of the policy itself and made it difficult to clearly distinguish between Council’s governance role and the operational administration of funding programmes.

- 3.3 Workshop discussions also highlighted the need for a framework that could more easily adapt to changing community priorities and emerging needs without requiring frequent formal policy amendments.

- 3.4 Following this feedback, the proposed structure was reconsidered and a refined the approach presented through this report.

- 3.5 The resulting proposal separates the framework into:

- a high-level Grants Policy, and
 - a separate Community Grants Guidelines document.
- 3.6 Under this approach, the policy provides the overarching governance framework, purpose, principles, and responsibilities relating to community funding, while the guidelines contain the operational detail for individual funding programmes, including:
- eligibility criteria,
 - application requirements,
 - assessment considerations,
 - accountability expectations,
 - funding limits, and
 - administrative processes.
- 3.7 This revised structure aims to provide a clearer distinction between governance and operational matters, improves accessibility and consistency for applicants, and allows Council greater flexibility to respond to changing community needs over time.
- 3.8 As part of this review, information relating to Community Committee and Marae and Hapū funding administration previously contained within the Community Development Policy will instead be incorporated into the relevant Community Committee Policy and Marae and Hapū Development Policy.
- 3.9 It is recommended, that the overall funding framework remain largely unchanged for the 2026/27 funding year, and that refinements are made through the accompanying Community Grants Guidelines.

Representative Fund

- 3.10 It is recommended that the Representative Fund be refocused toward applicants aged 19 years and under. Funding would be available through tiered support levels for regional, national, and international representation opportunities.

Community Development One-Off Fund

- 3.11 It is recommended that the Community Development Fund remain in place, with clarification provided through the accompanying guidelines that the “one-off” nature of the fund relates to the funding allocation itself rather than limiting support to one-off initiatives or projects.
- 3.12 This change is proposed in response to challenges experienced during the current funding year, where a number of applications demonstrated clear community benefit but were unable to be supported as they did not align with the narrow interpretation of “one-off” initiatives under the existing criteria.
- 3.13 The revised approach would allow the fund to support a broader range of locally led initiatives that strengthen community wellbeing, participation, resilience, identity, and connection, including ongoing community services where there is demonstrated community benefit.

- 3.14 This approach provides greater flexibility to respond to identified community need while maintaining the intent of providing limited-term funding support rather than creating ongoing funding commitments.

Events Fund

- 3.15 It is recommended that the Events Fund move to a fully contestable funding model.
- 3.16 Under the current approach, specific funding allocations are associated with certain events or organisations. The proposed approach removes reserved allocations and requires all events to apply through the same contestable process and assessment framework.

Traffic Management Support

- 3.17 Council currently provides traffic management support for a limited number of significant district events, specifically Anzac Day commemorations, Rural Day, and the Feilding Christmas Parade.
- 3.18 It is recommended that Council-funded traffic management support continue for these specified events for the 2026/27 funding year. All other event-related traffic management requests would instead be considered through the Events Fund application process.
- 3.19 The proposed approach provides greater clarity, consistency, transparency, and flexibility across the community funding framework while retaining Council's overall commitment to supporting strong, connected, and resilient communities.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

- 4.1 The proposed Grants Policy introduces a clearer and more transparent framework for the administration of Council grant funding. Separating governance policy from operational guidelines reduces the risk of inconsistent decision-making and improves Council's ability to respond to changing community needs over time.
- 4.2 A key risk identified through the review process is the potential for grant requests to continue being directed informally to staff or elected members outside of the approved grants process.
- 4.3 Council's policy is for all grant funding support requests to be assessed through the formal grants framework and applicable application process. Requests considered outside of the adopted process create a risk of:
- inconsistent decision-making,
 - perceived inequity between applicants,
 - reduced transparency and accountability,
 - reputational risk to Council, and
 - undermining the integrity and intent of the Grants Policy and associated guidelines.
- 4.4 There is also a risk that retaining highly detailed operational information within the policy itself would continue to create confusion between governance and administrative matters, limiting

Council's ability to adapt funding criteria and priorities in response to emerging community need.

4.5 Separating operational detail into the Community Grants Guidelines helps reduce this risk by allowing funding programmes and criteria to be reviewed and refined more efficiently while remaining aligned with the adopted principles and purpose of the Grants Policy.

4.6 The proposed framework is intended to support a fair, equitable, transparent, and consistent process for all applicants while maintaining public confidence in Council's grant funding decisions.

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 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 No formal community engagement has been undertaken as part of this review.

5.4 The proposed changes primarily relate to the structure, administration, and governance framework of Council's grants system rather than introducing significant changes to overall funding availability or levels of service.

5.5 However, analysis and observations from the administration of the 2025/26 grant funding rounds have been used to inform the proposed approach and recommendations. This included identifying recurring issues relating to funding criteria interpretation, applicant eligibility, administrative complexity, and limitations within the current policy structure.

5.6 This operational experience has helped inform the proposed refinements to improve clarity, consistency, accessibility, and flexibility across Council's grant funding framework.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

6.1 The proposed Grants Policy is not expected to create operational impacts for Council.

6.2 Council already administers and processes community grant funding programmes as part of normal business activity. The proposed changes largely formalise and clarify existing administrative practices through a clearer separation between governance policy and operational guidelines.

6.3 The revised structure aims to improve operational efficiency by:

- improving clarity and consistency for applicants,

- supporting more streamlined grant administration processes, and
- providing clearer guidance for staff and elected members regarding grant assessment and decision-making processes.

6.4 Overall, the proposed approach is expected to create a more practical, adaptable, and user-friendly grants framework for both applicants and Council administration.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

7.1 The proposed Grants Policy does not create any additional financial implications or changes to the overall grant funding budgets planned through the 2026/27 Annual Plan process.

7.2 The proposed changes primarily relate to the structure, administration, and transparency of Council's grants framework rather than altering funding levels.

7.3 Should Council wish to review overall grant funding allocations or funding levels in future years, these discussions would be considered through future Long-term Plan or Annual Plan processes.

7.4 The proposed approach is expected to improve transparency and equity across the grants framework, particularly through the removal of pre-allocated or earmarked event funding and the transition toward a more contestable funding process.

7.5 The clarification of the Community Development Fund criteria is also expected to improve Council's ability to allocate available funding to initiatives that provide clear community benefit. During the 2025/26 funding year, staff identified situations where applications aligned with identified community need but were unable to be supported due to the narrow interpretation of "one-off" initiatives under the existing criteria. The revised approach is intended to provide greater flexibility while still maintaining appropriate accountability around one-off funding allocations.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

8.1 There are no statutory requirements for this report.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

9.1 Subject to Council adoption of the Grants Policy, staff will:

a) Finalise and publish the accompanying Community Grants Guidelines for the 2026/27 funding year,

b) Update relevant operational processes, application forms, and public information to align with the revised framework,

c) Update the Community Committees Policy and Marae and Hapu Committees Policy.

c) Implement the revised funding approach for the 2026/27 grant funding rounds.

9.2 The effectiveness of the revised framework will be monitored to identify any future potential improvements through the ongoing administration of Council grant funding programmes.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- DRAFT P336 Grants Policy
- DRAFT P336 Community Grants Guidelines
- Community Development Strategy
- Community Development Policy

Grants Policy



TO BE CHANGED

Adopted/Confirmed:	
Review Frequency:	3 Yearly
Previous Adoption Date:	New
Next Review Date:	
Policy Type:	Governance
Reviewer	GM Community
Policy Version	P336

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1 Purpose

- 1.1 Manawatū District Council provides community funding to strengthen local resilience, support community connection, protect the district's identity and environment, and contribute to the wellbeing of residents.
- 1.2 Funding is one of the tools Council uses to support community-led initiatives that align with Council's outcomes and strategic priorities. Council recognises that strong communities are built through local leadership, volunteerism, participation, and shared responsibility.
- 1.3 This Policy provides the governance framework for how Council allocates community funding in a fair, transparent, accountable, and legally compliant manner.
- 1.4 Funding is discretionary and subject to budget availability through the Long-Term Plan (LTP) and Annual Plan (AP) processes.

2 Funding Objectives

- 2.1 Council allocates funding to:
 - Support strong, resilient, and connected communities
 - Enable initiatives that deliver clear public benefit
 - Contribute to social, cultural, environmental, and economic wellbeing
 - Encourage participation, inclusion, and accessibility

3 Legislative and Strategic Framework

- 3.1 This Policy operates in accordance with:
 - Local Government Act 2002 (including sections 10, 14 and 77)
 - Privacy Act 2020
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
 - Council's Long Term Plan
 - Council's Significance and Engagement Policy
 - Council's Delegation Manual
- 3.2 Funding decisions must comply with applicable legislation and Council's adopted policies.
- 3.3 Nothing in this policy overrides statutory obligations or trust deed requirements.

4 Policy Principles

- 4.1 Council commits to the following principles when allocating funding:
 - Fairness: Applications will be assessed impartially against published criteria.
 - Transparency: Funding opportunities and decisions will be publicly communicated

- **Accountability:** Recipients are accountable for the appropriate use of public funds. Council is accountable to the community for prudent expenditure.
- **Effectiveness:** Funding will support initiatives that deliver measurable community benefit.
- **Equity and Accessibility:** Council will consider barriers to funding opportunities.
- **Complementarity:** Council funding is intended to complement, not replace, other funding sources.

5 Eligibility Principles

- 5.1 Council funding is generally intended for organisations and initiatives that deliver a clear community or public benefit and align with Council priorities.
- 5.2 Funding is not intended for private or commercial gain without clear public benefit, or for activities that are primarily the responsibility of central government.
- 5.3 Detailed eligibility criteria are set out in the Community Funding Guidelines

6 Scope

- 6.1 This Policy applies to all Council-administered community grants, including:
- Contestable grants
 - Non-contestable grants
 - Multi-year funding arrangements
 - Strategic partnership funding
 - Funding approved through the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan processes
 - Statutory or trust-based funds administered by Council
- 6.2 Funding approved through the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan processes is subject to this Policy unless otherwise specified by Council resolution or required by statute or trust deed.
- 6.3 External funds administered on behalf of other entities (for example, the Creative Communities Scheme) operate under the rules of the funding body but are managed within this governance framework where applicable.

7 Governance and Decision-Making

- 7.1 Delegation
- Decision-making authority for each fund is set out in Council's Delegations Manual and the Community Funding Guidelines.
 - Council will maintain Community Funding Guidelines that set out detailed criteria, processes, and requirements for each funding programme.
 - Council retains authority for:
 - Adoption or amendment of this policy
 - Adoption of funding budgets through the Long-Term Plan and Annual Plan

- Approval of strategic or multi-year partnership funding where required

7.2 Decision-Making Framework

- Funding decisions will be made having regard to this policy, including the Funding Objectives, Policy Principles and any applicable criteria set out in the Community Funding Guidelines.

7.3 Council Discretion

- Council:
 - May approve or decline any application at its discretion.
 - Is not obliged to allocated the full funding pool.
 - May set conditions on funding.
 - May prioritise applications based on strategic alignment and available budget.
- Funding does not create an entitlement or ongoing right to funding.

7.4 Finality of Decisions

- Funding decisions are final.
- Applicants may request feedback to support future applications.

8 Accountability and Risk

8.1 Council will apply accountability measures proportionate to the level of funding and risk. This may include due diligence, funding agreements, reporting requirements, and appropriate actions where conditions are not met.

8.2 Council may suspend or terminate funding, require repayment, or decline future applications where funds are misused, information is misleading, or conditions are breached.

9 Conflict of Interest

9.1 All elected members and staff must comply with:

- The Elected Members Code of Conduct
- The Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

9.2 Any person involved in funding decisions must declare actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest. Conflicts must be recorded and the individual must withdraw from discussion and decision-making.

9.3 Applicants must disclose any relationships with elected members or staff that may create an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

10 Health and Safety

10.1 Grant funding does not transfer health and safety responsibilities to Council.

10.2 Recipients remain responsible for compliance with all applicable legislation, including health and safety requirements.

11 Privacy

- 11.1 Personal information will be used solely for assessing and administering grants.
- 11.2 Information may be publicly disclosed where required for transparency purposes, including recipient name, amount, and purpose.
- 11.3 Council will manage personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.

12 Transparency and Public Reporting

- 12.1 Council will:
 - Publish summaries of grant allocations
 - Disclose recipient name, amount, and purpose (except where privacy or trust deed requirements apply)
 - Maintain appropriate records for audit purposes
- 12.2 Non-contestable or direct grants must be established by formal Council resolution.

13 Monitoring and Evaluation

- 13.1 Council will periodically review its funding programmes to ensure they:
 - Deliver intended community outcomes
 - Provide value for money
 - Remain aligned with Council priorities.
- 13.2 Evaluation findings may inform future funding decisions, priorities, and policy updates.

14 Funding Framework

- 14.1 Council provides:
 - Contestable grants
 - Non-contestable (direct) grants
 - Multi-year funding arrangements
 - Strategic partnership funding
 - Statutory or trust-based funds
- 14.2 The creation of new funding streams or material changes must be approved by Council through the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan process.
- 14.3 Operational details for each fund are set out in the Community Funding Guidelines.

15 Policy Review

- 15.1 This policy will be reviewed at least three years or earlier if required due to legislative, strategic, or structural changes.

GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY GRANTS

Guidelines Adopted:	
Review Frequency:	3 Yearly
Type:	Governance
Reviewer	GM community
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1 Purpose

These guidelines support the implementation of the Manawatū District Council Grants Policy and provide operational information relating to Council-administered grant funding programmes.

The purpose of Council grant funding is to support initiatives, activities, services, and events that contribute to strong, connected, resilient, and thriving communities across the Manawatū District.

These guidelines outline:

- available grant funding programmes,
- eligibility requirements,
- assessment considerations,
- application processes,
- accountability expectations, and
- decision-making responsibilities.

Council may review and update these guidelines from time to time to ensure grant funding remains responsive to community needs, Council priorities, and available budgets.

2 Priority Services Grants

2.1 Purpose

Priority Services Grants provide three-year funding to organisations that deliver services, programmes or activities considered essential to strengthening community resilience, connection, local identity, and participation across the Manawatū District.

These grants support organisations whose work contributes at a district-wide or significant community-impact level and where continuity of service is important. The fund enables Council to partner with key community providers in a stable and planned way, ensuring that core community priorities are supported over time.

2.2 Fund Available

There is one funding round every three years for the delivery of priority services which closes 30 October through Council's online portal.

This will take place during the first year of Council's Long Term Plan with funding to take effect from the commencement of Year 2 for up to three years.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

2.3 Eligibility

Applicants must be:

- A legally incorporated society or charitable trust that is registered with the Charities Commission.

In addition, applicants must demonstrate:

- An appropriate organisational structure
- Sound financial management
- The capability to deliver the proposed service over the full three-year term within the Manawatū District

2.4 What Can't be Funded?

The Priority Services Fund will fund a wide range of costs integral to service delivery including salaries, training and development, administration and office expenses, insurance and audit, rent and utilities, promotion and materials and small capital items. However, it will not fund:

- Reducing Debt servicing
- Legal expenses
- Medical expenses
- Maintenance of equipment or facilities
- Public services that are the responsibility of central government
- Retrospective funding of services or projects
- Projects or activities occurring outside the Manawatū District
- Activities that duplicate an existing Council delivered service
- Groups or organisations that are already receiving Council funding towards their service delivery/projects/activities

2.5 Assessment Considerations

All applications will be considered at the same time to adequately divide the annual fund (as set in Council's Long Term Plan) by the Finance and Performance Committee. They will consider:

- The overall mix of services required across the district
- The balance of district-wide vs community-specific impact
- Avoiding duplication of existing services
- Performance against accountability measures for previous successful applicants
- Alignment with Council's strategy and outcomes

2.6 Accountability Requirements

The conditions of receiving funding are:

- Manawatū District Council **must** be acknowledged as a partner and funder in all relevant promotional material (including website if available). MDC logo will be provided to successful applicants.
- Manawatū District Council **must** and be acknowledged as a separate entry within the organisation's performance report or audited financial report. This must be provided to Council annually.
- Recipients of Priority Services Funding will be required to submit an accountability report to the Manawatū District Council that reports against key result indicators agreed to as part of a Contract of Service. Accountability reports will be required to be submitted at 6-monthly (by 15 February) and 12-monthly (1 September) intervals during the term of the contract.

- Recipients of Priority Services Funding will be required to present to Council in person annually for the term of the contract on their previous years' performance.

3 Community Development One-Off Fund

3.1 Purpose

The Community Development One-Off Fund supports locally led initiatives, activities, services, and projects that strengthen community wellbeing, participation, resilience, identity, and connection across the Manawatū District.

The 'one-off' nature of this fund relates to the funding allocation itself rather than limiting support only to one-off initiatives or projects.

The fund is intended to support community-led responses to identified local needs and may include seed funding, pilot initiatives, volunteer-led programmes, local projects, or community services where there is demonstrated community benefit.

3.2 Fund Available

The Community Development Fund operates twice per year (50% of available funds in each round), with the funding rounds being open in August and March annually. There is an upper limit of \$5k per application for this fund.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

3.3 Eligibility

It is preferred that the entity applying for this fund is a legally incorporated society or charitable trust that is registered with the Charities Commission, however applications from individuals, groups, volunteer-led organisations and community networks will be considered.

In addition, applicants must demonstrate:

- A sound financial plan for the initiative
- The capability to deliver the proposed initiative within the Manawatū District

3.4 What Can't be Funded?

The Community Development Fund cannot be used for:

- Activities occurring outside the Manawatū District
- Ongoing operational costs where no clear community benefit or project outcome can be demonstrated.
- Projects or events that duplicate an existing Council service
- Commercial or profit-driven ventures
- Large capital works, building maintenance, or large equipment purchases
- Debt servicing or repayment
- Fundraising activities or prizes
- Individual travel, accommodation, or personal costs

- Political or religious activities where the primary purpose is to promote a belief system or political position
- Projects where the primary benefit is to a private individual or business
- Retrospective costs (work already completed)
- Activities already funded through another Council fund or contract

Small capital, consumables, materials, venue hire and basic equipment required specifically for the initiative may be funded.

3.5 Assessment Considerations

All applications will be considered at the same time to adequately divide the available fund in the round (as set in Council's Long Term Plan) as per Council's Delegation Manual. They will consider:

- The overall mix of services across the district
- Avoiding duplication of existing services
- Performance against accountability measures for previous successful applicants
- Alignment with Council's strategy and outcomes

3.6 Accountability Requirements

Recipients must:

- Provide a brief accountability report within two months of the initiative finishing
- Acknowledge Council support in project materials or communications, MDC logo will be provided to successful applicants

4 Representative Fund

4.1 Purpose

The Representative Fund supports young people aged 19 years (both individuals and teams) and under from the Manawatū District who have been selected to represent their community, region, or country at recognised events, competitions, conferences, forums, or activities.

The fund assists with costs associated with regional, national or international representation, helping young people broaden their experience, develop their potential, and positively represent the district.

This fund is intended to recognise achievement, support personal development, and reflect Council's commitment to strengthening youth participation and opportunity across the district.

4.2 Fund Available

Applications for the Representative Fund may be submitted throughout the financial year until the available annual funding allocation has been exhausted.

Applications may apply for

- **Up to \$300** for individual representation at events within the Manawatū District, **or**
- **Up to \$500** for individual representation at events within New Zealand, **or**
- **Up to \$750** for individual representation at events held overseas, **or**

- **Up to \$1,500** for team representation at events within the Manawatū District, New Zealand or overseas.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

4.3 Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be up to 19 years of age at the time of application
- Live in the Manawatū District
- Have been formally selected by a recognised organisation, governing body, or event organiser to represent the district, region, or New Zealand
- Be participating in an event, competition, conference, leadership forum, cultural activity, or other recognised representative activity

Applications may be submitted by the young person or by a parent/guardian on their behalf.

4.4 What Can't be Funded?

The School Age Representative Fund will not fund:

- Retrospective costs (events that have already taken place)
- Training, coaching, trials, qualifying events or practice rounds
- Equipment, uniforms, costumes, or gear not directly linked to the representative event
- Private lessons or tuition fees
- Representation for purely commercial or profit-driven activities
- Costs for accompanying adults (unless required for accessibility or safety reasons)

4.5 Assessment Considerations

Applications will be assessed in the order they are received until the available annual funding allocation has been exhausted. They will consider:

- Priority may be given to first-time applicants where funding availability becomes limited
- Event costs and financial need
- Benefit to the young person (e.g .how participation will support growth, learning, leadership or cultural development)
- Performance against accountability measures for previous successful applicants

To ensure equitable distribution of funding, Council will not normally provide both individual and team funding support for the same representative event or activity. Where a team or group application has been approved, individual members of that team or group will not normally be eligible for separate funding for the same event, and vice versa.

4.6 Accountability Requirements

Recipients must:

- Use the funding only for the approved representative event
- Provide a short accountability summary within two months of the event including:
 - A brief reflection on their representative experience
 - A reflection on how they intend to or have shared their learning with others around them
 - A summary of how the funds were used
- Acknowledge Manawatū District Council's support where appropriate
- Present their summary of their experience at a Council meeting (either by pre-recorded video or in person at Council or Youth Council meeting)

5 Event Fund

5.1 Purpose

The Community Event Fund supports events and festivals delivered within the Manawatū District that contribute to strong, connected, vibrant, and resilient communities. The fund supports events that bring people together, celebrate local identity, culture, creativity, and heritage, strengthen community pride and belonging, encourage participation and inclusion, and contribute positively to the social, cultural, and economic wellbeing of the district.

Events supported through this fund should reflect the intent of Council's strategies and community outcomes by fostering welcoming and inclusive communities, encouraging participation, activating local spaces, strengthening community connection, and creating opportunities for people to share experiences, culture, creativity, recreation, and learning.

This fund may support one-off, emerging, or recurring community events, including local festivals, commemorative events, cultural celebrations, recreational events, rural community events, and activities that contribute to the identity, vibrancy, and character of the Manawatū District.

5.2 Funding Round

The Event Fund operates three times per year, with the funding rounds being open in June, September and March annually.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

5.3 Eligibility

It is preferred that applicants are legally incorporated societies or charitable trusts registered with the Charities Commission. However, applications from individuals, volunteer-led groups, community organisations, schools, clubs, and community networks will also be considered where there is clear community benefit.

To be eligible, applicants must demonstrate:

- the event will take place within the Manawatū District,
- a sound financial plan and realistic event budget,
- the capability and capacity to safely and successfully deliver the event,
- appropriate planning, including health and safety considerations where required, and
- that the event provides a clear benefit to the Manawatū District community.

5.4 What Can't be Funded?

The Events Fund will not normally support:

- events held outside the Manawatū District, unless there is clearly demonstrated impact and benefit to the district and its residents private functions or invitation-only events,
- activities primarily intended for commercial or private profit,
- events where the primary purpose is fundraising and the event budget indicates a financial surplus is expected to be returned to the organising group or organisation,
- ongoing organisational operational costs unrelated to the event,
- capital works or significant asset purchases,
- debt repayment,
- prize money,
- alcohol purchases,
- retrospective costs,
- political activities or events where the primary purpose is political advocacy,
- events that duplicate an existing Council-supported event without demonstrating additional community benefit, or
- activities inconsistent with Council policies or legislation.

The following costs may be supported where they are directly related to the delivery of the event:

- venue hire,
- materials and consumables,
- equipment hire,
- promotion and marketing,
- accessibility measures,
- safety-related costs, and
- approved traffic management expenses.

5.5 Assessment Considerations

All applications will be considered at the same time to adequately divide the available funding within each round, as set through Council's Long Term Plan and Annual Plan processes, and in accordance with Council's Delegations Manual.

Applications will be assessed against:

- the overall community benefit of the event,
- contribution to community connection, participation, wellbeing, local identity, or vibrancy,
- alignment with Council strategies and community outcomes,
- accessibility and inclusiveness of the event,
- financial need and the realism of the proposed budget,
- organisational capability and event planning,
- health and safety considerations,
- potential social, cultural, or economic benefits to the district,
- avoidance of unnecessary duplication with existing events,
- performance against accountability requirements for previous Council funding, and
- the overall mix and distribution of funded events across the district.

Priority may be given to events that:

- are free or low-cost to attend,
- support rural communities or smaller settlements,
- encourage broad community participation,
- celebrate local culture, heritage, or identity,
- support diverse communities and audiences,
- demonstrate strong volunteer involvement, or
- contribute positively to community resilience and connection.

5.6 Accountability Requirements

Successful applicants must:

- use the funding only for the approved purpose,
- provide a short accountability report within two months of the event taking place,
- provide evidence of expenditure if requested by Council,
- acknowledge Manawatū District Council support in promotional material or event communications where appropriate, and
- provide photographs, attendance numbers, or event outcome information if requested.

Where traffic management funding has been supported, applicants may also be required to provide confirmation that all required approvals were obtained and that the approved Traffic Management Plan was implemented.

The Manawatū District Council logo will be provided to successful applicants where acknowledgement of Council support is required.

6 School Pools Fund

6.1 Purpose

The School Pools Fund provides small grants to schools that make their swimming pool available for community use. The purpose of the fund is to support safe and accessible community swimming opportunities, particularly in rural areas where school pools often serve as the only local aquatic facility.

This fund contributes to the purchase of pool chemicals.

6.2 Fund Available

The School Pools Fund operates once per year with applications being open 1-30 September. There is an upper limit of \$300 per application for this fund.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal

6.3 Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a school located within the Manawatū District; and
- Operate a swimming pool that includes a demonstrable community use component.

6.4 What Cannot Be Funded

The School Pools Fund does not support:

- Any costs not related to the purchase of pool chemicals
- Retrospective costs
- Pools without a valid community-access component
- Private or restricted-access pools

6.5 Assessment Considerations

All applications will be considered at the same time to adequately divide the available fund in the round (as set in Council's Long Term Plan) as per Council's Delegation Manual. They will consider:

- Priority will be given to rural school pools that have a valid community-access component
- Number of applications vs total available fund

6.6 Accountability Requirements

Recipients must:

- Use the funding solely for the approved purchase of pool chemicals with receipts submitted as proof of purchase.
- Provide a brief accountability summary at the end of the swimming season, confirming the extent of community access provided

7 Urupā and Private Cemetery Fund

7.1 Purpose

The Urupā and Private Cemetery Fund provides financial assistance for the maintenance of urupā and private cemeteries within the Manawatū District. The purpose of the fund is to support caretakers and whānau who uphold important cultural, historical and community responsibilities associated with these sites.

The fund helps ensure that burial grounds remain safe, respectful, and well maintained, recognising their significance to mana whenua, local families, and the wider community.

This fund continues the intent of the previous Community Development Policy, which supported maintenance activities that uphold heritage, cultural identity, and community stewardship.

7.2 Fund Available

The Urupā and Private Cemetery Fund operates once per year with applications open 15 May - 30 June.

\$1,000 is initially tagged for private cemeteries, with any unallocated funding transferred to urupā applications.

Total Funding available is determined through Council's Annual Plan and Long Term Plan processes.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

7.3 Eligibility

To be eligible:

- Only existing urupā or private cemeteries located within the Manawatū District are eligible (new or proposed sites are not eligible).
- Applications must be made by:
 - the recognised kaitiaki or managing group of an urupā, or
 - the trustees or authorised caretakers of a private cemetery.

7.4 What Cannot Be Funded

The fund cannot support:

- Capital development of new or existing urupā (e.g., new roads, major levelling, significant redevelopment)
- Any activities that would be more appropriately considered through the Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan process
- Retrospective costs or work already completed

7.5 What Can Be Funded

Funding may be used for maintenance activities, including:

- Fencing repair or replacement
- Restoration of headstones
- Installation or repair of beams
- Mowing, weeding, vegetation control
- Graveling or maintenance of tracks and paths
- Recording or registration of urupā or private cemetery sites
- Other reasonable maintenance activities of similar nature

7.6 Assessment Considerations

All applications will be considered at the same time to adequately divide the available fund in the round (as set in Council's Long Term Plan).

Urupā applications will be assessed annually by Te Kōtui Reo Taumata, who hold delegated authority to allocate funding within budget.

Private cemetery applications will be assessed annually as per Council's Delegation Manual.

They will consider:

- Number of applications vs total available fund
- Alignment with the fund's purpose - the extent to which the work supports caretaking, cultural responsibilities, or preservation of heritage.
- Whether the work is essential to preserving the condition, safety, or accessibility of the site.
- Priority may be given to sites with immediate maintenance needs.
- Performance against accountability measures for previous successful applicants.

7.7 Accountability Requirements

Recipients must:

- Use the funding solely for the approved work with receipts submitted as proof of purchase.
- Provide a brief accountability summary at the end of the year, confirming the extent of work undertaken

8 Creative Communities Scheme

8.1 Purpose

The Creative Communities Scheme provides funding to support and encourage local arts activities within the Manawatū District. The fund aims to increase participation in the arts, support diverse creative expression, and enable locally delivered arts projects and events.

This fund is **not funded by Manawatū District Council**.

Council's role is solely to **administer the scheme on behalf of Creative New Zealand** in accordance with national rules and guidelines.

Because the Creative Communities Scheme is a national programme, this fund is not governed by the Manawatū District Council Grants Policy and operates under Creative New Zealand's framework.

8.2 Fund Available

Funding rounds are held twice per year, with dates set according to Creative New Zealand timelines.

Round close on 31st March and 31st of August every year.

Council receives an annual allocation from Creative New Zealand to distribute locally.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

8.3 Eligibility

To be eligible the project must:

- Take place within the Manawatū district.
- Be from an individual or group. Individuals must be New Zealand citizens or permanent residents.
- Have completed an accountability report if the applicant has already received funding for a previous Creative Communities Scheme Project.
- Have not already received funding from one of Creative New Zealand's other funding programmes.

Criteria for the Creative Communities Scheme are set nationally by Creative New Zealand and must be applied consistently across all participating councils.

Applications must meet at least one of Creative New Zealand's core funding criteria, which typically include:

- **Participation** – Creating opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities
- **Diversity** – Supporting the artistic traditions and aspirations of diverse cultural communities
- **Young People** – Enabling young people to engage with, participate in, or lead arts projects

The project must also:

- take place within the city or district where the application is made
- be completed within 12 months of funding being approved
- benefit local communities
- not have started or finished before CCS funding is approved
- not have already been funded through Creative New Zealand's other arts funding programmes.

Council **cannot alter** or add to these criteria

8.4 What Cannot Be Funded

Eligibility and exclusions are determined entirely by Creative New Zealand's national guidelines. Funding cannot be given for:

- Ongoing administration or personnel costs that are not related to the specific project.
- Costs for projects already started or completed.
- Travel costs to attend performances or exhibitions in other areas.
-
- Buying equipment, such as computers, cameras, musical instruments, costumes, lights or uniforms.
- Entry fees for competitions, contests and exams.
- Prize money, awards and judges' fees for competitions.
- Royalties.
- Buying artworks for collections.

Debt or interest on debt

8.5 What Can Be Funded

- Materials for arts activities or programmes.
- Venue or equipment hire.
- Personnel and administrative costs for short-term projects.
- Promotion and publicity of arts activities
- Reasonable requests to provide food for artists, participants, and audiences for community arts activities

8.6 Assessment Considerations

Applications will be considered twice a year with the amount given by Creative Communities New Zealand being divided between the two rounds. Applications will be assessed by the Creative Communities Funding Panel which is made up of two elected members plus Community Representatives.

Assessments will be made in accordance with the decision-making framework set by Creative New Zealand.

8.7 Accountability Requirements

All accountability requirements are **set by Creative New Zealand**.

Recipients must:

- Complete the project as described in the application (or request permission in writing from the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator for any significant change to the project)
- complete the project within a year after the funding is approved
- complete and return a Project Completion Report form within two months after the project is completed using the Creative New Zealand Reporting template provided via Council's online application portal.
- return any unspent funds.
- keep receipts and a record of all expenditure for seven years

Council is responsible for collecting and submitting accountability information to Creative New Zealand.

9 Waste Not Want Not Fund

9.1 Purpose

The fund aims to increase the range, scale and number of waste minimisation activities in the Manawatū district through effective use of the Waste Levy fund. An application process creates an opportunity for Council to promote and support waste minimisation within the community.

Councils have the ability under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (Section 47) to provide grants and advances of money to any person, organisation or group for the purposes of promoting or achieving waste management and minimisation, as long as this is authorised by the WMMP. An action included in Manawatū District Council's Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2022 – 2028 was for Council to create application process for the allocation of Waste Levy funding to the community.

9.2 Fund Available

The grant budget available in each financial year will be set by Council, as guided by the WMMP.

Funding rounds are held annually via a contestable process which calls for applications to identify potential recipients of the funding.

Applications must be submitted through Council's online portal.

There are three waste levy grant categories to give Council the ability to specify funding criteria that accommodate different types of applications to the fund. The allocation of waste levy grant funding across these categories will be at the discretion of the Waste Levy Grant Assessment panel.

The categories for allocation of waste levy grants are:

- Community- to support practical waste minimisation projects, initiatives or programmes that encourage community participation and education and/or are of benefit to the community of the Manawatū District
- Innovation- to provide seed funding to encourage innovation and partnership by individuals, community groups and organisations in the creation of opportunities for waste minimisation and economic development.
- Business Waste Reduction- to encourage businesses within the Manawatū District to implement measures that will lead to long term and measurable minimisation of the waste resulting from the businesses' operations. Applications within the Business Waste Reduction category can be made for up to 50% of total project costs.

9.3 Eligibility

Applications in the Community category will be assessed against the following key criteria:

- Will lead to long term waste minimisation actions and behaviour change by participants;
- Must be able to demonstrate how success will be measured (quantifiable) in terms of waste reduction and skills learnt;
- The breadth and scale of community involvement in the project; The ability of the applicant to deliver the project;
- A comprehensive budget that:
 - • Gives details of the estimated costs and funding sources;
 - • Includes all costs, not just the costs the applicant is seeking a waste levy grant for;
 - • Is accurate in all budget calculations and projections.
- The likelihood of the project becoming self-sustaining.

Applications in the Innovation category will be assessed against the following key criteria:

- Evidence that access to necessary waste streams is secured;
- Assumptions around waste stream costs, projected revenue, current and projected operating costs and end-use markets;
- Provision for contingencies and structured response to rising waste resource costs and/or end-use market failure;
- Estimates of performance post Council or other subsidy (will the project become self sustaining);
- Estimates of the scale of performance in terms of waste minimisation, and proposed methodology to measure this; Clear indication of benefit to the local and/or regional economy, to the wider Manawatū District community, and the environment;
- A comprehensive budget that:
 - • Gives details of the estimated costs and funding sources; Waste Levy Grants Allocation Policy Page | 3
 - • Includes all costs, not just the costs the applicant is seeking a waste levy grant for;
 - • Is accurate in all budget calculations and projections.

For pilot programmes and trials an outline of:

- a programme and process for testing;
- a programme for business development of the end product/results of the project/trial.

Applications in the Business Waste Reduction category will be assessed against the following key criteria:

- The project will lead to long term and measurable waste minimisation;
- The project proposal shows how success will be measured in terms of waste reduction. Success must be quantifiable and reported back to the Council;
- The project proposal provides an estimate of cost savings resulting from the project, if any. Priority will be given to projects where expected savings are not sufficient to cover project costs;
- A comprehensive budget that:
 - Gives details of the estimated costs and funding sources;
 - Includes all costs, not just the costs the applicant is seeking a waste levy grant for;
 - Is accurate in all budget calculations and projections.

9.4 What Cannot Be Funded

Projects that focus on waste disposal, the treatment of waste prior to disposal, or clean-ups (with the exception of marine or waterway waste clean-ups when attached to a community education initiative/programme).

Projects that are inconsistent with Council’s WMMP and the Waste Levy Grants Allocation Policy funding criteria.

Projects that do not involve waste generated from within the Manawatū District.

Subsidising the cost of waste to landfill.

Debt servicing.

Retrospective projects where the funding sought is for work already completed.

9.5 What Can Be Funded

Projects, initiatives or programmes which demonstrate promotion or achievement of waste minimisation by promoting a circular economy for waste, and/or by supporting reuse, recycle and recover principles.

Funding is only available for projects, initiatives or programmes partially or wholly taking place within the boundaries of the Manawatū District.

Applicants can be individuals, businesses or groups. Applications from individuals should be for a maximum of \$15,000 per application.

Applications over \$10,000 may have funding distributed via milestone payments rather than one lump sum, at the sole discretion of the Waste Levy Grant Assessment Panel.

Funding can be for operational or capital expenditure.

In some cases, multi-year funding may be awarded, with milestones and reporting requirements throughout the funded period.

Funded projects, initiatives or programmes include but are not limited to:

- educational or behavioural change approaches that promote waste minimisation activity to the public or a particular target audience;

- Infrastructure that helps divert resources from landfill;
- projects focused on understanding existing waste quantities and composition, behaviour or economic incentives, as a precursor to effectively reducing waste and/or increasing reuse, recycling and recovery of waste materials;
- design of product stewardship schemes or other solutions that promote and achieve waste minimisation;
- other initiatives that contribute to the actions and strategic priorities of the Manawatū District Council WMMP.

9.6 Assessment Considerations

Following the application closing date, the officer responsible for administering waste levy grants will assess applications against the funding criteria and make a recommendation to the Waste Levy Grant Assessment Panel.

Membership of the Waste Levy Grant Assessment panel will be as follows:

- 1 x Elected Member
- Utilities Manager
- 1 x Council officer
- Waste levy grant administration officer.

The Waste Levy Grant Assessment panel will meet yearly following the waste levy grant application closing date to make final decisions on allocation of the fund.

Further evidence to support applications may be requested throughout the grant allocation process.

Grant categories, criteria and priority funding areas identified within this policy may be updated from time to time by Council, and the policy will be fully reviewed following each statutory review of the WMMP.

Reviews of or changes to this policy will require approval from Council, or a Council Committee with the appropriate delegated authority.

9.7 Accountability Requirements

The conditions of receiving funding are:

- Manawatū District Council must be acknowledged as a partner and funder and be acknowledged as a separate entry within the organisation's accounts or in the organisation's annual report.
- Recipients of Waste Levy Grant funding will be required to submit an accountability report to the Manawatū District Council that reports against funding criteria.
- Accountability reports will be required to be submitted at 6- monthly and 12-monthly intervals during the funding term.
- Recipients of Waste Levy Grant funding for one off projects or initiatives will be required to submit an accountability report within two-months of completion.

10 Hook Bequest Fund

10.1 Purpose

The Hook Bequest provides financial assistance to individuals in genuine hardship who are bona fide residents of Feilding and may support charitable purposes within the borough of Feilding, in accordance with the terms of the original bequest.

10.2 Fund Available

The amount available for distribution each financial year is limited to:

- Interest and income generated from the matured capital of the Hook Bequest; and
- Any unallocated funds carried forward from previous years.

The capital of the bequest will be preserved in accordance with trust requirements.

Grants will be paid directly to the organisation for which written quotations or invoices have been provided and will not be paid directly to the applicant.

10.3 Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Be bona fide persons in need of financial assistance;
- Be residents of Feilding;
- Have their application endorsed by a social services organisation or other similar organisation that can verify that the applicant is in need of financial assistance.
- Provide quotations for costs applied for.

10.4 What Cannot Be Funded

The Fund will not support:

- Applications that do not meet the stated purpose of the Hook Bequest;
- Retrospective funding;
- Applications not endorsed by a qualifying social service organisation;
- Requests outside Feilding.

10.5 Assessment Considerations

Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis until the available matured funds and any carried forward balance are exhausted for the financial year.

Applications will be assessed and approved in accordance with Council's Delegations Manual and the specific purpose and eligibility requirements of the Hook Bequest.

Funding decisions are subject to the availability of interest and income generated from the bequest and cannot exceed the amount available for distribution in that financial year.

10.6 Accountability Requirements

Successful applicants may be required to provide evidence that the approved purpose for which the funding was granted has been undertaken.

11 Robert Dickson Education Trust Fund

11.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Robert Dickson Education Trust is to make available financial assistance to single parents who reside within the Manawatū District Council's boundary where the support and guidance of their children's mother and father is no longer available.

Funding awarded is to assist in matters relating to the education, development and advancement in life of their children, consistent with the general objectives of the defunct Feilding Birthright Society.

11.2 Fund Available

The amount available for distribution each financial year is limited to:

- Interest and income generated from the matured capital of the Robert Dickson Education Trust; and
- Any unallocated funds carried forward from previous years.

The capital of the Trust will be preserved in accordance with trust requirements.

Grants will be paid directly to the organisation for which written quotations or invoices have been provided and will not be paid directly to the applicant.

11.3 Eligibility

To be eligible for funding, applicants must:

- Reside within the Manawatū District Council's boundary;
- Be able to demonstrate that their child or children no longer have available the support and guidance of either a mother or a father;
- Have their application endorsed by a social services organisation or other similar organisation.
- Provide quotations for costs applied for.

Applications must be endorsed by a social service organisation or other similar organisation that can verify that the support of a father or mother is currently not available.

11.4 What Cannot Be Funded

The Trust will not support:

- Applications that do not meet the stated purpose of the Trust;
- Retrospective funding
- Applications that are not endorsed by a qualifying social services organisation;
- Applications from persons residing outside the Manawatū District Council boundary.

Funding will not be given retrospectively

11.5 Assessment Considerations

Applications will be considered on a first come, first served basis until the available matured funds and any carried forward balance are exhausted for the financial year.

Applications will be assessed and approved in accordance with Council's Delegations Manual and the specific purpose and eligibility requirements of the Robert Dickson Education Trust.

Funding decisions are subject to the availability of interest and income generated from the Trust and cannot exceed the amount available for distribution in that financial year.

11.6 Accountability Requirements

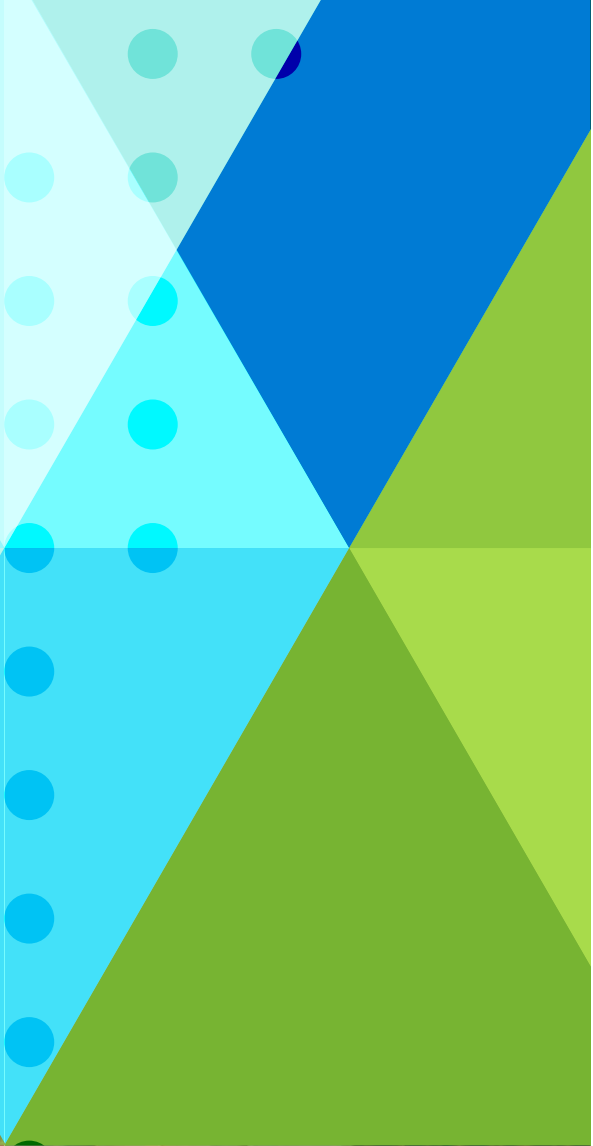
Successful applicants may be required to provide evidence that the approved purpose for which the funding was granted has been undertaken.



Community Development Strategy

Revised 1 July 2021

www.mdc.govt.nz



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Welcome

Tērā te karanga o te iwi, “Tēnā huakina ngā tatau o te whare kia tae ai taku tiro ki ngā taonga ā-roto”. Ko te whakahoki o te kaunihera ā-rohe o Manawatū, ko tēnei, “Kua tuwherahia ngā tatau ki a koutou katoa. Tomo mai ki tō tātou nei whare kia āhuru ai te noho. Nau piki mai, haere kake mai!”

The people call saying, “Open the doors of the house that I may see the gifts within”. Manawatū District Council responds, “The doors are open to you all. Enter into our house that your stay may be comfortable. Welcome and come on in!”

Community development is about everyone working together to make our communities a fantastic place to grow up, grow old and everything in between.

Community development is about whanaungatanga (relationships). Shared experiences and working together creates a sense of belonging.

Whanaungatanga happens when we work together to:

- Celebrate our diversity
- Welcome newcomers
- Learn and share our knowledge with others
- Ensure the environment in which we live is safe, strong and healthy both now and in the future
- Build strong, resilient, sustainable local communities
- Strengthen the interests and values of our District’s residents by encouraging active participation
- Generate community led opportunities and outcomes
- See ourselves as a single, cohesive community as well as a collection of smaller communities based on our geographical location or on areas of special interest or identity

**Manawatū District Council Community Development Strategy Vision:
Our District offers a high quality of life for all residents**

While there is a lot MDC can do directly to achieve this vision, a critical role of Council is to partner with our community, supporting grassroots initiatives in a variety of ways. There are many groups in our community who strive for the social, cultural, physical and spiritual wellbeing of individuals and families. The whakawhanaungatanga groups demonstrate building relationships through shared experiences and working together is essential to community wellbeing and Council honours the critical work they do.

Another role of Council is to advocate to Central Government on issues that impact on the wellbeing of our communities but are outside Council control. Council is committed to working for, with, and on behalf of the Manawatū community – and the individual communities that make up our District – to ensure that our District offers a high quality of life for all residents.





This Community Development Strategy is one of several strategic documents which contribute to Council’s vision. Appendix 3 shows how these strategies and plans work together towards Council’s vision of a -

Connected, vibrant and thriving Manawatū District – the best lifestyle in New Zealand

PULSE CHECK– HOW ARE WE GETTING ON?



ACTIONS

	 Wairua	 Whānau	 Tinana	 Hinengaro
Ongoing	5	5	9	2
Under RBA Contract	1	2	1	2
Completed	2	2	3	-
Not Started	4	2	4	3
New	-	-	1	-
	12	11	18	7

ON TRACK

 Manawatū  New Zealand

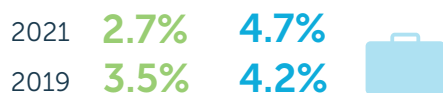
POPULATION

Percentage of population growth grew faster than the national average in 2019 but although it is still growing, it has dropped in comparison with the national average for 2020. We continue to have a greater proportion of younger and older people than the national average.



EMPLOYMENT

Percentage of unemployment rate continues to track below the national rate.



EDUCATIONAL

Percentage of school leavers with NCEA Level 2 has seen a positive increase from 2019 tracking higher than the national average.



Percentage of school leavers with NCEA Level 3 has also seen a positive increase from 2019 but is tracking lower than the national average.



DEMOCRACY

Percentage of voters in the 2020 General Election increased from 2017 and continues to track higher than the national average.



THINGS TO WATCH

HEALTH

Percentage of suicide although lesser than what it was in 2019 is still higher than national average (per 10,000 persons).



Percentage of smokers although lesser than what it was in 2013 is still higher than national average.



INCOME

Percentage of dependency ratio (a measure of the population over 65 and under 15 relative to the working population) although lesser than what it was in 2019 is still 10% higher than national average.

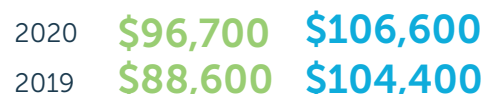


HOUSING

Percentage of renters paying more than 30% of income on rent is slightly higher than national average and higher than 2019 although local home ownership remains more affordable than for much of New Zealand. Note the earlier data was taken from Infometrics before they changed their formula which is now no longer comparable. The data being used now is from HUD (Ministry of Housing and Urban Development) with the latest data available being 2018. A factor with the growth here between income growth and house price/rental cost inflation



Percentage of household income is still \$10,000 lesser than the national average but this latest data suggests strong earnings and jobs growth in the region.



SAFETY

Percentage of crime rate has significantly increased (per 10,000 population) in the Manawatū since 2019 with the national average staying the same although Manawatū is still below the national average.

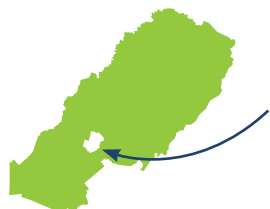


Who are we?

Key: ■ Manawatū ■ NZ

Comparing Manawatū to the rest of New Zealand

Our **POPULATION** is growing faster than the national population



Feilding
17,050
people

Whole District
32,100
people

Population Growth 1.6% 2.1%

Our **population increased by 500** to the year ended June 2020. This includes **410 new people moving to the District**.

ETHNIC DIVERSITY

Our population is less diverse than much of New Zealand

Some people are counted more than once because they identify with more than one ethnicity

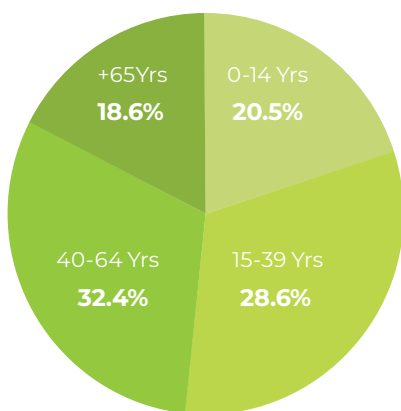
NZ European	89.2%	70.2%	Asian	2.6%	15.1%
Māori	16.5%	16.5%	Pacific	2.0%	8.1%

We have a greater proportion of European residents, an equal proportion of Māori residents and a lower proportion of all other ethnic residents than the national average

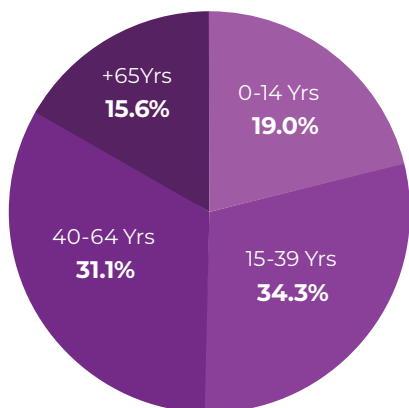
AGE PROFILE

We have a greater proportion of younger and older people than the national average

Manawatū



NZ



The **median age of our population is 40.9 years**. This compares with a national median age of 37.4 years.

SAFETY

Our crime rate is lower than much of New Zealand

Crime Rate <i>per 10,000 population</i>	301.6	344.1
Total convictions <i>as 9% of charged</i>	69.9%	72.0%

HEALTH



Life expectancy		
Females	83.4 yrs	83.7 yrs
Males	80.0 yrs	80.4 yrs

Suicide 1.4 1.3
(per 10,000 people) (Midcentral DHB)

Smoking <i>percentage of regular smokers</i>	16.0% <small>2013</small>	13.7% <small>2013</small>
	14.1% <small>2018</small>	13.2% <small>2018</small>

No vaping statistics are currently available.

INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT

Household income <i>Average (mean)</i>	\$96,700	\$106,600	Dependency Ratio <i>(a measure of the population over 65 and under 15 relative to the working population)</i>	60.6%	50.3%
Earnings <i>Mean annual earnings per employed person 2020</i>	\$55,114	\$64,237	Our Unemployment rate is well below the national unemployment rate.		
			Overall	2.7%	4.7%

HOUSING in the District is becoming less affordable

Ownership affordability	70.4%	74.8%	Rental affordability	32.4%	31.0%
<i>The % of first home buyers paying > 30% of income on housing costs.</i>			<i>The % of renters paying > 30% of income on rent.</i>		

Local home ownership remains more affordable than for much of New Zealand.
HUD, 2018



EDUCATIONAL attainment of NCEA level 3 in the District is lower than the national average

School leavers <i>with NCEA level 2 or above</i>	83.4%	80.8%	School leavers <i>with NCEA level 3 or above</i>	50.0%	59.1%
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98.3% of our pre-school children attended early childhood education centres in the six months prior to starting school. This compares with **96.8% of all NZ pre-schoolers.**

DEMOCRACY – VOTER TURNOUT

Local body elections <i>(2019)</i>	44.3%	42.2%	General election <i>(2020)</i>	85.9%	82.2%
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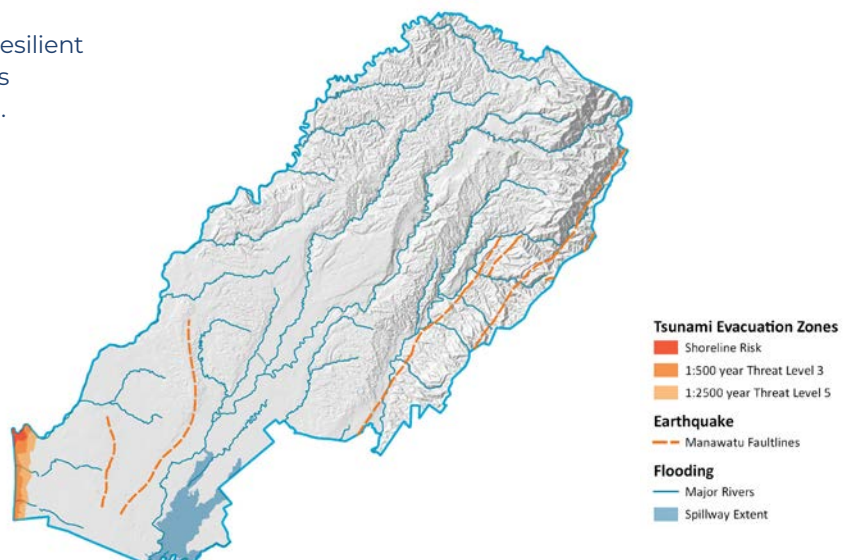
Our citizens participate more in the democratic process than much of New Zealand

CIVIL DEFENCE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT is a core Council function

Council aims to assist and encourage a resilient Manawatū District, helping communities understand and manage their own risks.

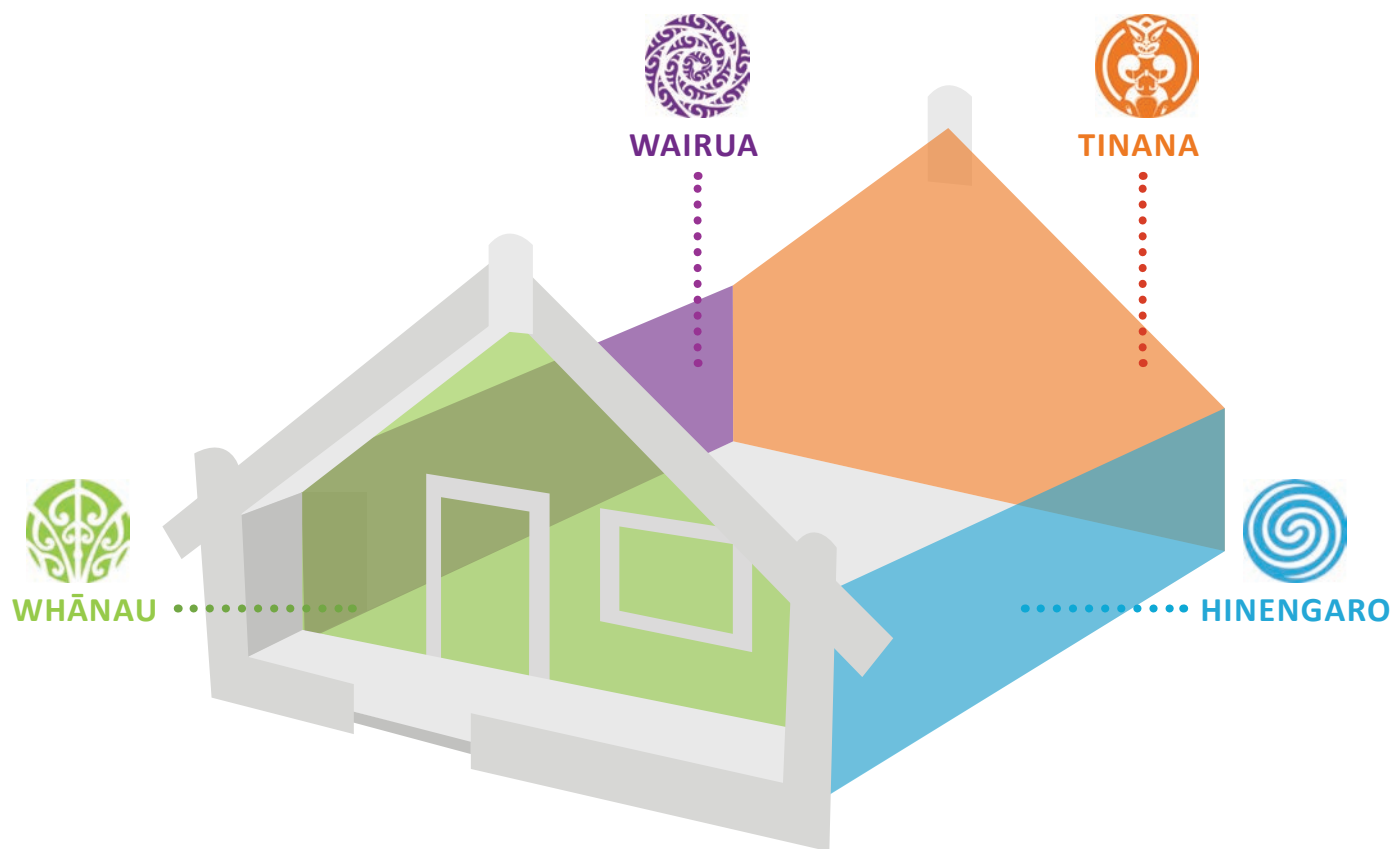
Manawatū District Hazards

1. Severe Earthquake
2. River Flood
3. Tsunami
4. Drought
5. Landslide



This data is from a range of sources, including Statistics New Zealand, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, Infometrics etc.

Te Whare Tapa Whā



Te Whare Tapa Whā can be literally translated as ‘the four-sided house’

Te Whare Tapa Whā is a model of health which was developed in 1982 by Mason H. Durie (Ngati Kauwhata). It encourages us to employ a more holistic way of viewing health and wellbeing by using four key perspectives or dimensions:

- **Te taha wairua (spiritual wellbeing)**
- **Te taha tinana (physical wellbeing)**
- **Te taha whānau (social wellbeing)**
- **Te taha hinengaro (mental wellbeing)**

Additionally, the Te Whare Tapa Whā model can help illustrate how each dimension affects the others. Te Whare Tapa Whā invites us to consider more holistic solutions and remedies. A house needs all four walls in order to be strong.

For an explanation of the symbols and colours used throughout this strategy, see Appendix 4.

The Importance of the Wharenui in the Te Whare Tapa Whā model

The marae is a place that brings people and communities together, helping to support, care for, and protect the people and manuhiri (visitors).

At the centre of it all, you will find what is known as the wharenui (main meeting house). From a Māori world perspective, the house is viewed as an ancestor and reflects the physical traits of a person e.g. maihi (arms), raparapa (hands), and tāhūhū (spine). Given that Māori view the wharenui in this manner, it holds even greater significance to its people as the most senior elder on the marae, and is fiercely protected, especially during times of pōwhiri (ceremonial welcome). The people protect the wharenui and all taonga (treasures) held within, including women and children.

Community Development Strategy

Te Whare Tapa Whā model is primarily used to help view wellbeing in a holistic manner, however, this model of health can also be adopted to explore potential, opportunity and consequences in all aspects of life.

Council has used the Te Whare Tapa Whā model to explore the wellbeing of the Manawatū District, and how we might contribute to its wellbeing in a more holistic manner. The model forms the framework for this Community Development Strategy.



*Whanau Day, Timona Park,
November 2018*

Where are we headed?

Our District offers a high quality of life for all residents



WAIRUA - SPIRITUAL WELLBEING
(sense of identity and connection)

OUTCOME

We are Connected and Inclusive

Our strength is in the diversity of our people and our heritage

GOALS

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from



WHĀNAU - SOCIAL WELLBEING
(communal, community)

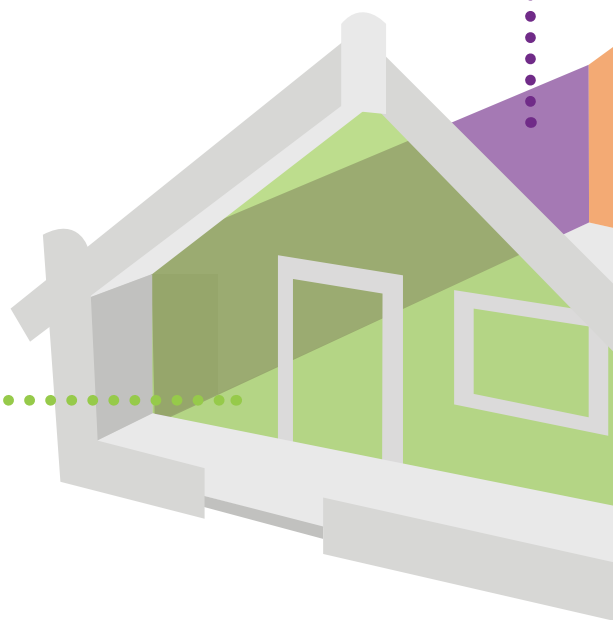
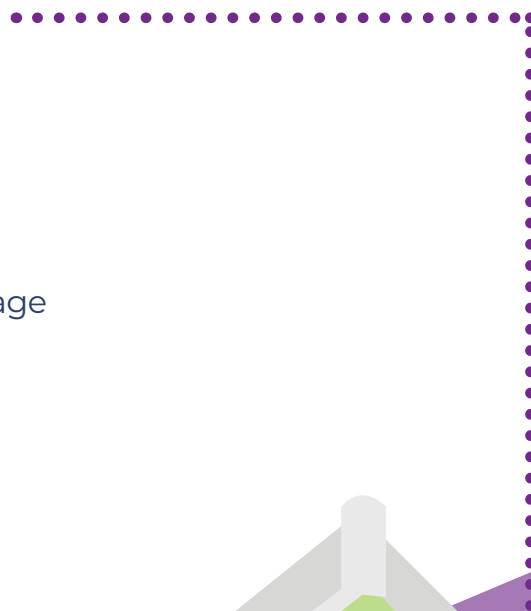
OUTCOME

We are Actively Engaged

Our people are empowered to strengthen and influence their communities

GOALS

- We have creative, cultural, and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tāngata whenua are visible





TINANA - PHYSICAL WELLBEING

(environmental, tangible)

OUTCOME

We Prepare for Tomorrow Today

Our natural, physical and social environment is safe, sustainable and resilient

GOALS

- Community success is enabled by quality infrastructure, services and technology
- Our people and communities feel safe
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment



HINENGARO - COGNITIVE WELLBEING

(education, values, beliefs)

OUTCOME

We are Lifelong Learners

Our people gain and share knowledge and understanding as they progress through life

GOALS

- Our people have learning opportunities that enhance their life choices
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

Where are we now?

Council already supports our community in a variety of ways. We provide funding, support and encouragement to community groups and individuals who contribute to the community outcomes



WAIKUA - SPIRITUAL WELLBEING

Council...

- supports organisations that protect and promote the heritage, identity and social wellbeing of the District
- actively promotes Māori culture in the community
- increases staff capability to work in multicultural environments
- supports the care and maintenance of urupā and private cemeteries
- invites a representative of the Manawatū Christian Leaders' Network to open Council meetings in prayer



WHĀNAU - SOCIAL WELLBEING

Council...

- supports the promotion of, and participation in, sport and active recreation
- hosts the annual MDC Community Honours Awards
- enables community representation and participation through Community Committees
- liaises with the community through community-focussed Council positions
- supports community facilities for community activities and events
- has developed a Walking and Cycling Strategy
- produce a quarterly newsletter for Community Committees





TINANA - PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL

Council...

- supports organisations that enhance the wellbeing of the natural, physical and social environment
- supports community initiatives that protect, beautify and communicate the value of our natural land, water and coastal environments
- ensures the planning and design of our public spaces caters for all - including those with additional needs
- invests in careful planning, education and preparation for disaster resilience
- ensures the District Plan reflects urban design principles including crime prevention through environment design (CPTED)
- ensures land use planning is a collaborative process between Council, Iwi and the wider community
- supports the development and review of Community Plans and encourages, and partially funds, their implementation
- actively engages in environmental protection groups and agreements
- is developing a Community Facilities Strategy
- works with a range of key experts to provide non-financial support and advocacy for those affected by Earthquake Prone Building legislation



HINENGARO - COGNITIVE WELLBEING, EDUCATION, VALUES, BELIEFS

Council...

- maintains active participation in the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (NZ)
- supports career pathways for youth in the District

Council collaborates and maintains relationships with key agencies and organisations:

- Council-controlled organisations
- Central Government Agencies
- Community organisations (volunteer and faith-based organisations)
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Iwi, Hapū, Whānau and Māori communities
- Service clubs



The Colour Run,
Timona Park, May 2019

Actions for 2021-2023

As well as the things Council already does, between January 2020 and 1 July 2021 Council will do the following things to further encourage a strong, happy and resilient community.



WAIRUA - SPIRITUAL WELLBEING

- Articulate a clear statement on the use of Te Reo Māori in Council communal spaces
- Encourage opportunities for expressing the cultural diversity in our District
- Implement a local action plan for seniors that links to the national Better Later Life Strategy
- Implement a local action plan for youth that links to national strategies
- Support works of art and sculpture in public spaces across the District
- Actively participate in the Manawatū Health and Wellbeing Group
- Increase partnership potential with the faith communities in the District by developing a register of faith organisations, their places of worship, and their social and community work
- Strengthen Council's relationship with the faith communities in the District by further understanding and recognising the work they do in the community



TINANA - PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL

- Investigate and develop an Environmental Sustainability Strategy
- Pursue opportunities for funding from Central Government for initiatives related to environmental responsibility
- Complete the review of the Rural and Residential Zones in collaboration with Council, Iwi and the wider community
- Adopt and implement a Walking and Cycling Strategy
- Adopt and implement a Community Facilities Strategy
- Participate in new opportunities for engagement with environmental groups and agreements
- Investigate options for the provision of financial and further non-financial support for the preservation of the heritage character of Feilding and the District



WHĀNAU - SOCIAL WELLBEING

- Enable those of other cultures and languages to participate in the community
- Facilitate Māori contribution and participation in Council decision-making
- Formalise Manawatū Youth Ambassadors as a Community of Interest within the Community Committee Policy
- Support community initiatives that seek to overcome social isolation
- Work with Manawatū Community Trust to develop a 30-year approach to the provision of social housing



HINENGARO - COGNITIVE WELLBEING, EDUCATION, VALUES, BELIEFS

- Actively support volunteering in our community
- Review community information services in order to improve the effectiveness of distribution
- Invest in community development sector governance capability
- Ensure diverse and capable representation on Council controlled governance structures
- Support home-based learning and small business professional development

Long term actions

Actions for July 2021 forward



Adopt and implement an environmental sustainability strategy



Partner with Manawatū Community Trust to implement a 30 year approach to the provision of social housing



Implement Council's Community Facilities Strategy



Implement Council's Walking and Cycling Strategy

Council as Advocate

One of Council's roles is to advocate to Central Government on issues that impact on the wellbeing of our communities but are not within Council's control.

Council advocates for:



WAIRUA - SPIRITUAL WELLBEING

- Holistic focus and equitable access for all in the health and wellbeing sector



WHĀNAU - SOCIAL WELLBEING

- Increased citizen engagement with Central and Local Government elections



TINANA - PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL

- Improved district-wide public transport services
- Cell phone and internet connectivity in rural blackspot areas
- Adequate power supply for our growth areas
- Adequate policing resources for our communities
- Availability and affordability of community and social housing
- Removing the barriers to the provision of community and social housing



HINENGARO - COGNITIVE WELLBEING, EDUCATION, VALUES, BELIEFS

- The promotion of employment opportunities for young people



Community Barn raising
at Kimbolton Sculpture
festival 2019

Appendices

Appendix 1 - How did this strategy come about?

Community Development has been a function of Council since 2003. Broadly speaking, this means that MDC has provided funding and support for community organisations and individuals as well as community development initiatives at the grassroots level for a long time.

During the preparation of its Long Term Plan 2018-2028, Council, through its Community Funding Committee, identified some gaps in Council's decision-making framework for community development. As a result, it decided that a strategy should be developed that would state outcomes and goals that would help guide investment and priorities at a community level.

In early 2019, after doing some initial drafting work, Council sought feedback from the community (check out the word cloud on the facing page). We went along to the Feilding Farmer's Market to ask people what they thought about our proposed vision, outcomes and goals for the strategy. We also held a series of eleven community engagement workshops with a total of around 120 participants.

The workshops had representatives from a wide range of community interest groups:

- **Social services**
- **Arts and culture representatives**
- **The aged community**
- **Youth**
- **Tāngata whenua**
- **Environmental groups**
- **Emergency services**
- **Sport and recreation representatives**
- **Multi-cultural communities**
- **Hall committees**
- **Community committees**

As a result of the feedback we received from the community, we revised the strategy's draft outcomes and goals.

The Community Funding Committee then identified actions to ensure that Council can achieve the community development outcomes and goals that were set. These actions fall into three categories:

- 1. Actions Council is already doing**
- 2. Medium-term actions**
- 3. Long term intentions**

The medium-term actions will be incorporated into Council's work plans over the next two years. The long-term intentions will require further research and planning, as well as careful budget consideration. These will be further explored as part of Council's Long Term Plan 2021-31. We will also seek the community's input as we investigate and develop the longer term actions.

Appendix 2 - Full table of Actions and Measures *(measures in italics)*

Wairua - Spiritual, Identity, Wellbeing	Whānau - Social, Communal	Tinana - Physical, Environmental	Hinengaro - Education, Values, Beliefs
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Council provides funding, support and encouragement to community groups and individuals.

Council will continue to...

- PS Action:** Support organisations that protect and promote the heritage, identity and social wellbeing of the District
 - *Number of relevant organisations that receive Council support*
- OG Action:** Actively promote Māori culture in the community
 - *Te Roopū Waiata: participation in 5-10 community events annually*
 - *Use of bi-lingual signage in Council-owned spaces and documentation*
- OG Action:** Increase staff capability to work in multicultural environments
 - *12 staff training sessions undertaken annually*
- OG Action:** Support the care and maintenance of urupā and private cemeteries
 - *Annual budget provision*
 - *Number of successful applicants*
- OG Action:** Invite a representative of the Manawatū Christian Leaders' Network to open Council meetings in prayer
 - *All Council meetings open in prayer*

- PS Action:** Support the promotion of, and participation in, sport and active recreation
 - *Number of relevant organisations and initiatives that receive Council support*
- OG Action:** Host the annual MDC Community Honours Awards
 - *MDC Community Honours Awards held annually*
 - *Young Achievers Awards held annually*
- OG Action:** Enable community representation and participation through Community Committees
 - *Implementation of Community Committee Policy*
 - *Liaison Councillors appointed to each Community Committee*
- OG Action:** Liaise with the community through community-focussed Council positions
 - *Ongoing positions: Community Development Advisor and Principal Advisor -Māori*
- OG Action:** Support community facilities for community activities and events
 - *Budget allocation for community facilities*
- C Action:** Develop a Walking and Cycling Strategy
 - *Council Walking and Cycling Strategy adopted*

- PS Action:** Support organisations that enhance the wellbeing of the natural, physical and social environment
 - *Number of relevant organisations that receive Council support*
- OG Action:** Support community initiatives that protect, beautify and communicate the value of our natural land, water and coastal environments
 - *Number of relevant initiatives that receive Council support*
- OG Action:** Ensure the planning and design of our public spaces caters for all - including those with additional needs
 - *Implementation of public space plans for all*
- OG Action:** Invest in careful planning, education and preparation for disaster resilience
 - *The completion of the regional Community Resilience Survey*
 - *Community Response and Recovery Plans prepared for all communities across the District*
 - *Community Activated Emergency Centre Guides prepared for all communities across the District*
- OG Action:** Ensures the District Plan reflects urban design principles including crime prevention through environment design (CPTED).
 - *Structure Plans are developed for new greenfield areas*
 - *Design and CPTED principles are incorporated into the District Plan.*
- OG Action:** Ensure land use planning is a collaborative process between Council, Iwi and the wider community
 - *Improved engagement processes in District Planning*

- OG Action:** Maintain an active participation in the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (NZ)
 - *The Mayor advocates alongside the national body on matters relevant to youth*
- OG Action:** Support career pathways for youth in the District
 - *Investment in the annual Sort It Careers Expo through CEDA*
 - *Number of students who have participated in work experience at Council*

Tinana continued...

- OG Action:** Support the development and review of Community Plans and encourages, and partially funds, their implementation
 - *Community Plans are developed, reviewed and implemented in accordance with Council's Community Planning Programme Brief*
 - *Annual budget provision for implementation of Community Plans*
- OG Action:** Actively engage in environmental protection groups and agreements
 - *Active participation in*
 - *Manawatū River Leaders' Accord*
 - *Ōroua Catchment Care Group*
 - *Ōroua Declaration*
 - *Enviroschools*
- C Action:** Develop a Community Facilities Strategy
 - *Council Community Facilities Strategy adopted*
- OG Action:** Work with a range of key experts to provide non-financial support and advocacy for those affected by Earthquake-Prone Building legislation
 - *Non-financial support and advocacy provided for those affected by Earthquake Prone Building legislation*
- N Action:** Building better relationships with Community Committees
 - *Quarterly newsletter for Community Committees to distribute four times per year*

Status Key

- N** New
- OG** Ongoing
- PS** Under Contract
- C** Complete
- NS** Not Started

Council will continue to collaborate and maintain relationships with key agencies/organisations:

- Council-controlled organisations
- Central Government Agencies
- Community organisations (volunteer and faith-based organisations)
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Iwi, Hapū, Whānau and Māori communities
- Service clubs

In January 2020 - June 2021 Council will...

- NS Action:** Articulate a clear statement on the use of Te Reo Māori in Council communal spaces
 - *Adopted statement on the use of Te Reo in communal spaces*
- NS Action:** Encourage opportunities for expressing the cultural diversity in our District
 - *Number of events and programmes that celebrate our diversity, eg. culture, heritage and arts*
- C Action:** Develop a local action plan for Seniors that links to the national Better Later Life Strategy
 - *Local Action Plan for Seniors developed*
- C Action:** Develop a local action plan for youth that links to national strategies
 - *Local Action Plan for youth developed*
- NS Action:** Support works of art and sculpture in public spaces across the District
 - *Number of new works of public art and sculpture*
- OG Action:** Actively participate in the Manawātū Health and Wellbeing Group
 - *Number of meeting attendances*
- NS Action:** Increase partnership potential with the faith communities in the District by developing a register of faith organisations, their places of worship, and their social and community work
 - *A Faith Communities Register is developed*

- NS Action:** Enable those of other cultures and languages to participate in the community
 - *Number of Council initiatives that enable participation*
- NS Action:** Facilitate Māori contribution and participation in Council decision-making
 - *Nga Manu Taiko self-assessment of contribution and participation*
 - *Updated Terms of Reference for Nga Manu Taiko*
- C Action:** Formalise Manawātū Youth Ambassadors as a Community of Interest within the Community Committee Policy
 - *Community Committee Policy updated to reflect this action*
- PS Action:** Support community initiatives that seek to overcome social isolation
 - *Number of relevant initiatives supported*
- OG Action:** Work with Manawātū Community Trust to develop a 30 year approach to the provision of social housing
 - *Adopted Statement of Intent*

Wairua continued...

- NS Action:** Strengthen Council's relationship with the faith communities in the District by further understanding and recognising the work they do in the community
 - *Council records and public narratives that document the relationship between Council and the faith community (eg. Public acknowledgements, meeting agendas and minutes, etc.)*

- NS Action:** Investigate and Develop an Environmental Sustainability Strategy
 - *Draft Strategy developed and consulted on*
- NS Action:** Pursue opportunities for funding from Central Government for initiatives related to environmental responsibility
 - *Number of funding opportunities pursued*
- NS Action:** Participate in new opportunities for engagement with environmental groups and agreements
 - *Active engagement with Manawātū River Source to Sea initiative and Environment Network Manawātū*
- C Action:** Adopt and implement a Walking and Cycling Strategy
 - *Strategy adopted and implemented*
- C Action:** Adopt and implement a Community Facilities Strategy
 - *Strategy adopted and implemented*
- OG Action:** Complete the review of the Rural and Residential Zones in collaboration with Council, Iwi and the wider community
 - *Improved community engagement in District Planning*
- NS Action:** Investigate options for the provision of financial and further non-financial support for the preservation of the heritage character of Feilding and the District
 - *Community consulted on outcomes of the investigation*

- PS Action:** Actively support volunteering in our community
 - *Recognise National Volunteer Week*
 - *Maintain an active relationship with the Volunteer Resource Centre*
- PS Action:** Review community information services in order to improve the effectiveness of distribution
 - *Completed and documented review*
- NS Action:** Invest in community development sector governance capability
 - *Number of training sessions held*
 - *Number of participants*
- NS Action:** Ensure diverse and capable representation on Council controlled governance structures
 - *Diversity report tabled with Council by June 2020*
 - *Updated and adopted Council Controlled Organisations Policy*
- NS Action:** Support home-based learning and small business professional development
 - *Bookings of Council spaces, including the meeting rooms at the Feilding Library and the Makino Aquatic Centre, for training purposes*

Council advocates for...

- Holistic focus and equitable access for all in the health and wellbeing sector
- Advocate with Central Government funders for improved outcomes and service provision for youth wellbeing, rural isolation, mental health and addiction

- Increased citizen engagement with Central and Local Government elections

- Improved district-wide public transport services
- Cell phone and internet connectivity in rural blackspot areas
- Adequate power supply for our growth areas
- Adequate policing resources for our communities

- The promotion of employment opportunities for young people

Tinana continued...

- Availability and affordability of community and social housing
- Removing the barriers to the provision of community and social housing

Appendix 3 - Related Council Strategies and Documents

The purpose of Council is to promote the **social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing** of communities in the present and for the future (Local Government Act 2002).

All of the work Council does in the District contributes to these “four wellbeings”. Whether it is providing libraries, swimming pools and sports grounds, maintaining roads and bridges, running the pound, or managing rubbish and recycling and wastewater treatment plants – everything Council does is about ensuring the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of our community in the present and for the future.

Each of the wellbeings thrives in relationship with the others – they don’t stand alone. This is reflected in MDC’s three key strategies – each emphasise different wellbeings, but they are strongly related to each other.

- THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY focuses on strengthening our **social** and **cultural** wellbeing using the Te Whare Tapa Whā framework which seeks to balance physical, mental, social and spiritual wellbeing.
- By enabling a prosperous and diverse **economy**, the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY seeks to contribute to a high quality of life for all residents. This strategy will be reviewed in 2020.
- The ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY, which will be developed in 2021–22, will focus on good stewardship of our natural resources and our changing **environment**.

Council has several other strategic documents which, together with the three mentioned above, contribute to community wellbeing:

- Infrastructure Strategy
- Financial Strategy
- Libraries Strategic Framework
- District Plan
- Feilding Town Centre Vision
- District Sports Facilities Provision Plan
- Open Spaces Framework
- Feilding Strategic Framework
- Community Facilities Strategy
- Walking and Cycling Strategy
- Long Term Plan 2021–31
- Environmental Strategy (currently being developed)



Appendix 4 - Meaning of symbols and colours used in this strategy



WAIRUA - SPIRITUAL WELLBEING

These designs are representative of unseen vibrations and energies. This is particularly relevant with karanga (the calling of visitors onto the marae) and its ability to communicate between the physical and spiritual realms.

Purple is a mix of two primary colours, red and blue. It has been used here to reflect the celestial origins of whakapapa within the blood (red) and the reference to water (blue), and its connection to our physical makeup.



WHĀNAU - SOCIAL WELLBEING

These series of koru represent the links between generations (grandchildren, children, parents, grandparents) as well as development and growth within each generation. The symmetry on both sides speaks to the importance of both the male and female elements in the whānau unit and how they work together to complement growth and development.

The colour green has been used intentionally, given its link to harakeke (flax), which can be representative of whānau and community.



TINANA - PHYSICAL, ENVIRONMENTAL

The whare located in the centre of the female figure represents the 'whare tangata' or womb. It gives focus to the growth and development of one physical entity while in the care of another.

The orange/clay colour symbolises the soil at Kurawaka, where the first woman, Hineahuone, was created.

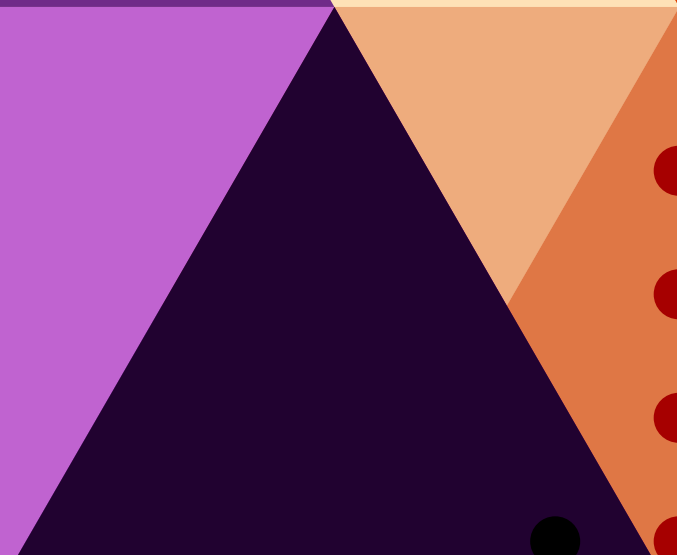
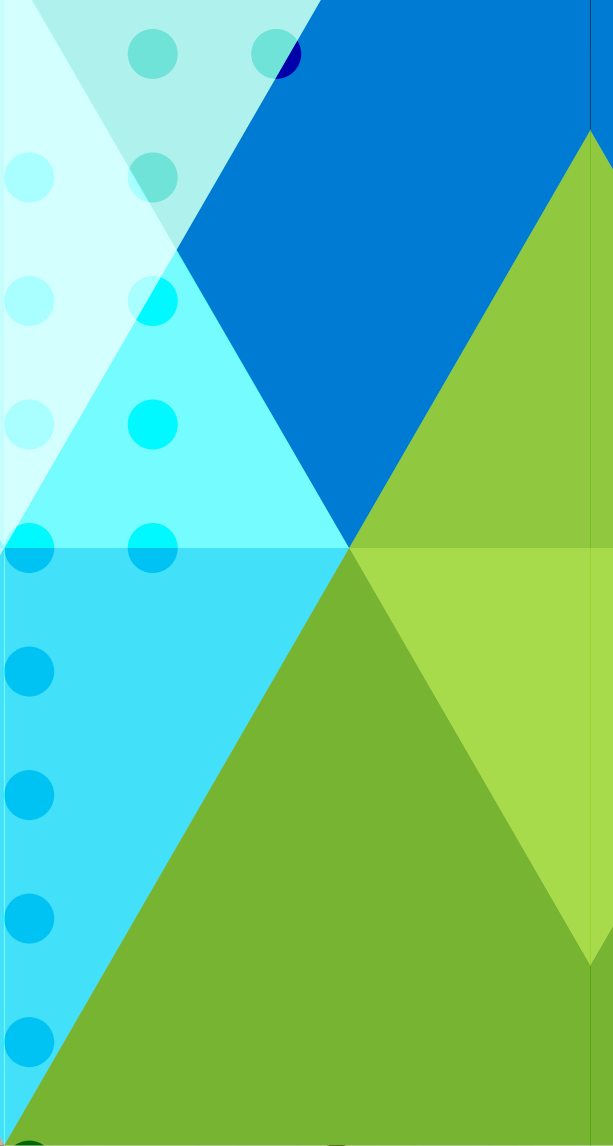


HINENGARO - COGNITIVE WELLBEING, EDUCATION, VALUES, BELIEFS

The takarangi spirals are symbolic of many things, including knowledge and enlightenment. The two interlocking spirals represent the links between celestial and terrestrial knowledge and also speak to the baskets of knowledge that were shared between the heavens and the earth.

The colour blue has been used here to reflect the heavens, from where the baskets of knowledge were drawn.









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Manawatu District Council

Community Development Policy

Supports Community Development Strategy

Adopted:	17 October 2024
Review Frequency	3 Yearly
Review date:	1 August 2027
Policy type:	Governance
Policy Number	P265

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1 Objective

Council has adopted a Community Development Strategy that sets out its priorities for Community Development within the Manawatū District.

Community Development is part of the District Development Activity within Council's Long Term Plan, which also includes Economic Development. It supports the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of our people and places.

Community development is a means of working together to:

- Be a cohesive single community or a collection of smaller communities based on our geographical location or on areas of special interest or identity
- Build stronger, resilient, sustainable local communities
- Ensure the environment in which we live is safe, strong and healthy both now and in the future
- Celebrate our diversity
- Welcome new residents to the Manawatū
- Strengthen the interests and values of our District's residents by encouraging active participation
- Learn and share our knowledge with others
- Generate community led opportunities and outcomes
- Encourage recreational, sport and cultural participation.

While there is a lot that Council can do directly to achieve the above, a critical role for Council is to partner with its community and voluntary organisations in supporting grassroots initiatives. One of the ways in which it can do this is through the provision of funding.

The objective of the Community Development Policy is to provide a clear framework for financial support for grassroots initiatives while also ensuring that Council's resources are targeted at meeting its strategic outcomes.

The Community Development Policy will provide guidelines for decision makers that will allow a transparent framework to ensure good stewardship of public funds.

Council should not be seen as being the sole funder for any project, service, event or festival.

The following contestable funds are covered within this policy:

- Community Development Fund
- Event Fund
- Representative Fund
- Private Cemetery/Urupā Fund
- Community Committee Project Fund
- Community Planning Implementation Fund

The Manawatū District Council administers the Creative Communities Scheme on behalf of Creative New Zealand, which is part of the Community Development activity. However, Council is required to follow Creative New Zealand's guidelines for allocating funding. The Creative Communities Scheme is therefore not part of this policy.

Rates Remissions for Charitable Organisations is part of the Community Development activity. However, it is included within the Manawatū District Council's Rates Remission Policy and is therefore not part of this policy.

2 Community Development Fund

2.1 Purpose

The Community Development Fund is designed to encourage community leadership of local solutions. This fund supports community and voluntary organisations whose outcomes directly contribute to the Community Development Strategy’s vision of “Our District offers a high quality of life for all residents” as well as supporting the following outcomes:

- We are connected and inclusive – our strength is in the diversity of our people and our heritage
- We are actively engaged – our people are empowered to strengthen and influence their communities
- We prepare for tomorrow today – our natural, physical and social environment is safe, sustainable and resilient
- We are lifelong learners – our people gain and share knowledge and understanding as they progress through life

The Community Development Fund will support grassroots initiatives that align well with the above outcomes and can deliver on more than one of the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tangata whenua are visible
- Community success is enabled by quality infrastructure, services and technology
- Our people and communities feel safe
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
- Our people have learning opportunities that enhance their life choices
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

2.2 Criteria

Those applying for this fund will need to be able to demonstrate that they are either:

- A not for profit organisation based in the Manawatū District; or
- A legally incorporated society or charitable trust that is registered with the Charities Commission or
- A partnership of not for profit and or a legally incorporated society or charitable trust for the delivery of services or a project.

and that they have the appropriate organisational structure and demonstrated financial ability to deliver on the service or project.

Priority will be given to:

- Activities that contribute to achieving more than one of the above key outcomes and goals
- Viability of the proposed service or activity including history of organisation’s capability and capacity of project delivery with demonstrable community benefit clearly evident
- The management/governance structure of the organisation and its financial requirements are appropriately met relative to the size and complexity of the organisation

- Legal status of organisation
- Initiatives that strengthen participation across diverse communities
- Collaborative approaches operating across more than one organisation which enhances connections with existing and emerging networks and activities eg community, arts, cultures, environmental
- Initiatives that grow community leadership
- Compliance with previous reporting requirements

Multi-year funding up to three years from the Community Development Fund can be approved.

2.3 What can and can't be funded?

The Community Development Fund will fund a wide range of costs integral to service delivery including salaries, training and development, administration and office expenses, insurance and audit, rent and utilities, promotion and materials and small capital items. However, it will not fund:

- Reducing Debt servicing
- Legal expenses
- Medical expenses
- Maintenance of equipment or facilities
- Public services that are the responsibility of central government
- Retrospective funding of services or projects

2.4 Funding Round

There is one funding round every three years for the delivery of priority services from the Community Development Fund closing 30 October.

The Manawatū District Council will be tendering for the delivery of priority services that link to the Community Development Strategy. This will take place during the first year of Council's Long Term Plan with funding to take effect from the commencement of Year 2 for up to three years.

There will be two funding rounds per year for one off services or projects that link to the above criteria which closes 30 June and 30 November.

2.5 Accountability Requirements

The conditions of receiving funding are:

- Manawatū District Council **must** be acknowledged as a partner and funder and be acknowledged as a separate entry within the organisation's accounts or in the organisation's annual report.
- Recipients of Community Development Funding will be required to submit an accountability report to the Manawatū District Council that reports against key result indicators agreed to as part of a Contract of Service. Accountability reports will be required to be submitted at 6-monthly and 12-monthly intervals during the term of the contract.
- Recipients of Community Development Funding for one off services or projects will be required to submit an accountability report at the completion of the service or project.

2.6 Application Process

See Appendix 1.

3 Event Fund

3.1 Purpose

The Event Fund supports events or festivals that are primary of benefit to Manawatū District residents and directly contribute to the Community Development Strategy's vision of "Our District offers a high quality of life for all residents".

The Event Fund will support events or festivals that align well with at least one of the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tāngata whenua are visible
- Community success is enabled by quality infrastructure, services and technology
- Our people and communities feel safe
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
- Our people have learning opportunities that enhance their life choices
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

3.2 Criteria

It is preferred that organisations are incorporated societies or trusts, but applications from individuals or commercial organisations will be considered.

The applicant should demonstrate that the event or festival:

- Contributes to a connected and inclusive district
- Builds unity and community pride by celebrating the district's character, diversity and individuality through arts and culture
- Provides opportunities for innovation
- Is accessible to Manawatū District residents
- Is not entirely focused on commercial activity
- Supports Manawatū District Council's vision, the Community Development Strategy and the Economic Development Strategy

Priority will be given to:

- Events and Festivals that demonstrate sustainable practices
- Level of compliance with health and safety
- Events and Festivals that contribute to achieving at least one of the above listed goals
- Viability of the proposed event or festival including history of organisation's capability and capacity for delivery
- Strengthen participation across diverse communities
- A collaborative approach which operates across more than one sector which enhances connections with existing and emerging networks and activities eg community, arts, cultures, environmental
- Events that grow community leadership
- Compliance with previous reporting requirements

3.3 What can and can't be funded?

The Event Fund will fund a wide range of costs integral to holding an event or festival, which includes venue hire or hiring of equipment such as seating, marquee, lighting and sound as well as marketing, and promotion, health and safety, insurance and transport management costs, hospitality costs. However, it will not fund:

- Events or festivals where the primary purpose is to fundraise
- Prizes/Trophies
- Alcohol
- Retrospective (funding being applied for following an event or festival)

3.4 Funding Round

There are three funding rounds per annum for the Event Fund closing 30 June, 30 September and 30 March.

3.5 Accountability Requirements

The conditions of receiving funding are:

- Manawatū District Council **must** be acknowledged as a partner and funder and be acknowledged as a separate entry within the organisation's accounts or in the organisation's annual report.
- An accountability report to be submitted to the Manawatū District Council within two months following the event or festival. The report to include:
 - Operational debrief including venue, signage, safety and the sustainable practices used
 - Media coverage
 - Approximate number of attendees
 - Actual expenditure and income for event or festival
 - Resources that were used including volunteer and staff time
 - The objectives put forward to support your funding application have been realised
 - If the event or festival has the potential to grow
 - The impact on the community if this event or festival was no longer run or scaled back

3.6 Application Process

See Appendix 1.

4 Representative Fund

4.1 Purpose

The Representative Fund supports individuals or teams who have been selected or have qualified to represent Manawatū District or New Zealand at a national or international event and directly contributes to the Community Development Strategy's vision of "Our District offers a high quality of life for all residents".

The Representative Fund will support events that align well with at least one of the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- Our people have learning opportunities that enhance their life choices
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

4.2 Criteria

Those applying for this fund will need to demonstrate that:

- They are a resident of the Manawatū District (within the boundary administered by the Manawatū District Council);
- They have been selected or have qualified to represent the Manawatū District or New Zealand at a national or international event. Evidence of selection or qualification **must** be attached to the application.

The applicant should demonstrate how their attendance at the event aligns with at least one of the following goals:

- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- Our people have learning opportunities that enhance their life choices
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

Priority will be given to:

- Individuals or teams that contribute to achieving one or more of the above listed goals
- First time applicants
- Representative activities that grow community leadership
- Compliance with previous reporting requirements

4.3 What can and can't be funded?

The Representative Fund may assist with travel and accommodation costs as well as entrance fees to events that individuals or teams are either competing or representing. However, it will not fund uniforms, food, refreshments, personal expenses or retrospective funding.

4.4 Funding Round

Representative Fund applications are open all year round.

4.5 Accountability Requirements

The conditions of receiving funding are:

- An evaluation report to be submitted to the Manawatū District Council within two months following the event. The report to include:
 - Brief description of the highlights of the event attended
 - How the funding assisted in attending the event

- What the applicant has planned for the future
- Individuals or teams that receive funding agree to provide a brief verbal report to Council, as part of its Public Forum, on the benefits of their participation at the specified event.

4.6 Application Process

See Appendix 1.

5 Private Cemetery/Urupā Fund

5.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Private Cemetery/Urupā Fund is to assist with the costs associated with the upkeep of private cemetery/urupā located within the Manawatū District.

The Private Cemetery/Urupā Fund aligns well with the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tāngata whenua are visible
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment

5.2 Criteria

The following criteria will apply to both private cemeteries and urupā.

- Only existing urupā or private cemeteries within Manawatū District Council boundaries are eligible for funding assistance

5.3 What can and can't be funded?

The fund can only be used for the maintenance of private cemeteries/urupā. Maintenance is broadly defined and includes such items as:

- Fencing maintenance
- Restoration of headstones
- Installation of beams
- Mowing, weeding or other similar maintenance
- Graveling of tracks or paths
- Recording or registration of urupā/private cemeteries
- Other similar maintenance items

Maintenance does not include the capital development of new or existing urupā, such as the development of roads, levelling of land or other similar items. Any application for funding associated with these items should be forwarded through the Manawatū District Council Long Term Plan or Annual Plan process.

5.4 Funding Round

Applications to the fund close on the last Friday in July of each year. Applications will only be received once annually.

Applications to the Private Cemetery/Urupā Fund must include the following information:

- Details of proposed work
- Indicative costings, including one quote
- Amount being requested
- Contact Details, including a phone number

A sum of \$1,000.00 annually (out of the total annual budget) would be initially tagged for private cemetery funding applications. If no applications are received from private cemeteries or they are not approved for funding, this amount would be applied against urupā applications. In addition, any leftover funding will be carried over to the following year.

5.5 Accountability Requirements

On completion of the work the applicant is required to forward to Council a certificate of completion detailing the work that had been completed with copies of receipts attached as verification.

5.6 Application Process

District urupā applications:

- These will be considered annually at a meeting of **Te Kōtuiti Reo Taumata** who have delegated authority to sign off on funding within budget. Where the total amount requested exceeds the budgeted amount, **Te Kōtuiti Reo Taumata** will prioritise projects according to need to fit within the budget.

Private cemetery applications:

- The Community Wellbeing Manager will assess the applications against the criteria and will make a recommendation to the General Manager – Community who has delegated authority to sign off on funding within budget.

Approved work **must** be completed within the financial year of the date of approval.

6 Community Committee Project Fund

6.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Community Committee Project Fund is to allow Community Committees and the Manawatū Youth Ambassadors to undertake small-scale and discrete projects that enhance their communities of interest.

The Community Committee Project Fund aligns well with the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tāngata whenua are visible
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

6.2 Criteria

The Community Committees and Manawatū Youth Council will need to demonstrate that the projects that they are seeking funding for:

- Aligns well to their Community Plans, where a Community Plan exists;
- Aligns with one or more of the following goals:
 - We are a welcoming community
 - Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
 - We value who we are and where we have come from
 - We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
 - We work together to make our whānau and communities better
 - Tāngata whenua are visible
 - We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
 - We encourage and enable people to shape their future
 - Our people share their skills and experience with others

6.3 What can and can't be funded?

The Community Committee Project Fund will fund any small-scale project that meets the above criteria. However, it will not fund projects that are currently included in Council's contracts or are an increase of levels of service. Any application for funding associated with an increase in levels of service should be forwarded through the Manawatū District Council Long Term Plan or Annual Plan process.

6.4 Funding Round

The Community Committee Project Fund has an annual budget to be distributed evenly amongst each of the Community Committees and the Manawatū Youth Council that are currently active. This funding is not available to any Committee that is in recess.

6.5 Accountability Requirements

The Community Committees and the Manawatū Youth Council will be required to report to Council on how the projects for which they have received Community Committee Project Funding have contributed to one or more of the goals referred to above and the impact that these projects have had on the respective communities of interest.

6.6 Application Process

Each active Community Committee and the Manawatū Youth Council will be asked to submit a draft work programme by the end of June each year for the following financial year. This work programme lists projects in order of priority.

The Community Wellbeing Manager assesses the proposed projects against the criteria and makes a recommendation to the General Manager – Community who has delegated authority to sign off on funding within budget.

Payment is upon receipt of invoices for agreed projects. Funds may be accumulated and carried over from one year to the next as long as they have been tagged for a specific project and approved by the General Manager – Community as part of the annual budget process.. Any carry forward of funding beyond a Long Term Plan will be at the discretion of Council.

7 Community Planning Implementation Fund

7.1 Purpose

The Community Planning Programme aligns with Council's vision of being: Proudly provincial. A great place to land. It directly aligns with Council's village vision statement: Attractive and prosperous communities that offer lifestyle choices and business opportunities within a unique environment. It supports communities to develop a shared vision for their village, through collaboration between communities, Council and other agencies.

The goal for the programme is to create attractive and prosperous communities with lifestyle choices and business opportunities within a unique village environment. The residents will benefit from an improved environment and services, the villages are attractive to new residents and become more resilient and sustainable.

The programme's objectives are to:

- Set clear strategic direction for villages, reflecting each community's unique characteristics
- Provide a pathway for village community's vision and priorities to be reflected in council's and other agencies' strategies and work plans
- Grow village community spirit, attract and retain residents
- Enable residents to create the communities they want
- Develop constructive working relationships between councillors, residents, businesses and council staff

The purpose of the Community Planning Implementation Fund is to provide a funding mechanism which assists with collaboration between communities, Council and other agencies to implement small-scale capital projects that are identified in Community Plans that:

- Attributes to the village community's vision and priorities
- Grows community spirit
- Attracts and retain residents
- Enables village residents to create the community they want

The Community Planning Implementation Fund aligns well with the following Community Development Strategy goals:

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tāngata whenua are visible
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

7.2 Criteria

The Community Committees will need to demonstrate that the small-scale capital projects that they are seeking funding for:

- Aligns well with their Community Plans;
- Aligns with one or more of the following goals:

- We are a welcoming community
- Everyone has a sense of belonging and are proud of where they live
- We value who we are and where we have come from
- We have creative, cultural and recreational participation in our communities
- We work together to make our whānau and communities better
- Tangata whenua are visible
- We are guardians (kaitiakitanga) of the natural environment
- We encourage and enable people to shape their future
- Our people share their skills and experience with others

7.3 What can and can't be funded?

The Community Planning Implementation Fund will only fund small-scale capital projects that meets the above criteria. Any application for funding associated with large-scale capital projects or an increase in levels of service should be forwarded through the Manawatū District Council Long Term Plan or Annual Plan process.

However, the Community Planning Implementation Fund can provide seed funding that will allow Community Committees to approach third party funders for funding towards large-scale capital projects arising out of Community Plans.

7.4 Funding Round

The Community Planning Implementation Fund has one funding round per year coinciding with the Community Committee Project funding round.

7.5 Accountability Requirements

The Community Committees will be required to report to Council how the projects for which they have received Community Planning Implementation Funding have contributed to one or more of the goals referred to above and the impact that these projects have had on the respective communities of interest.

7.6 Application Process

The process for receiving applications to the Community Planning Implementation Fund will be done in conjunction with the Community Committees Project Fund process. Draft work programmes need to be submitted by the end of June each year for the following financial year. All community planning projects are to be listed in order of priority.

The Community Wellbeing Manager assesses the proposed projects against the criteria and makes a recommendation to the General Manager – Community who has delegated authority to sign off on funding within budget.

Payment is upon receipt of invoices for agreed projects. Any request to carry forward funding from the Community Planning Implementation Fund will be at the discretion of Council.

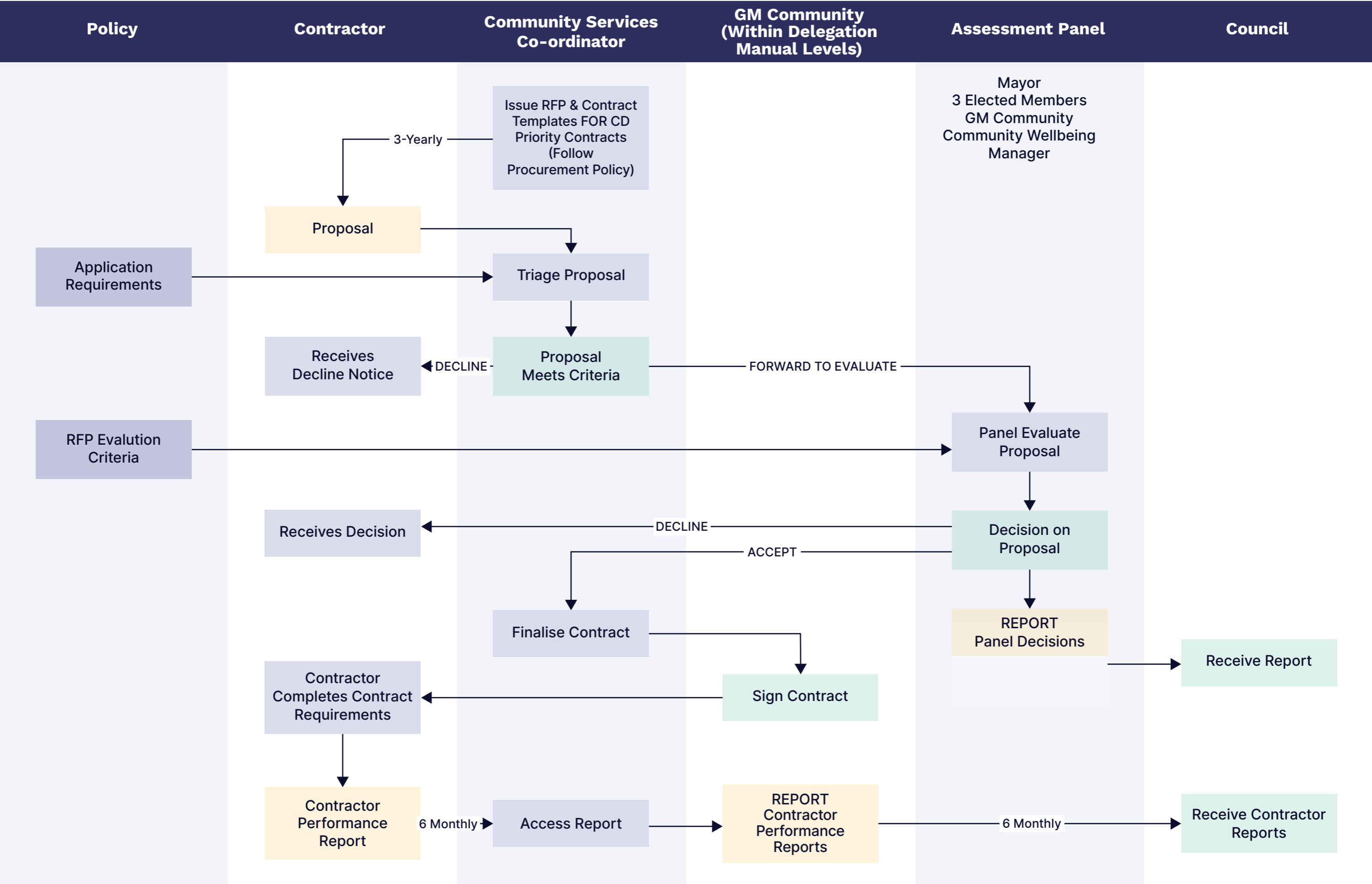
8 Appendix 1

8.1 Application Process

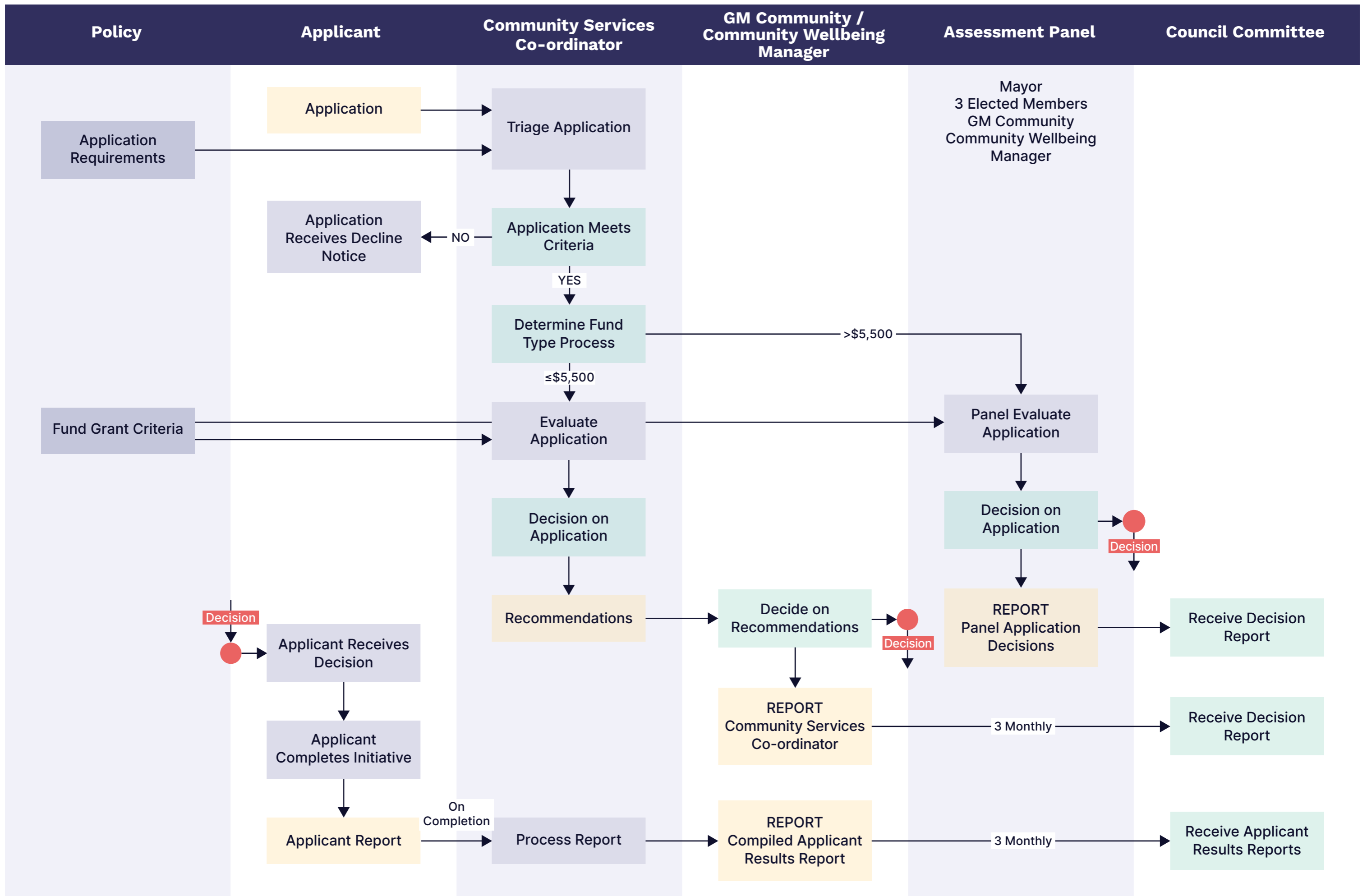
8.1.1 Community Development Priority Contracts Process

8.1.2 Community Development Grant Process: Representative, Event, Community Development Projects/Initiatives

Community Development Priority Contracts



Community Development Grant Process - Representative, Event, Community Development Projects/Initiatives



Council

Meeting of 17 June 2026

Business Unit: Corporate
Date Created: 12 May 2026

Risk Management Policy

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To present the updated Risk Management Policy to Council for adoption.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohinga

That the Council adopts the updated Risk Management Policy, without amendment.

OR

That the Councils adopts the updated Risk Management Policy, with amendments listed below.

Report prepared by:
Ash Garstang
Governance and Assurance Manager

Approved for submission by:
Frances Smorti
General Manager - Corporate

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 The Risk Management Policy (the “Policy”) establishes the framework through which Council identifies, assesses, monitors and reports risks across the organisation. The Policy also incorporates the Council's Risk Appetite Statement and Risk Matrix, providing guidance to elected members and staff when making decisions and evaluating risks.
- 1.2 The review has considered operational experience gained since adoption of the Policy in 2024, feedback from users of the framework, and opportunities to improve clarity and usability.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 The Policy supports the strategic priority of "Value for money and excellence in local government" by providing a modern, fit-for-purpose risk management framework that supports informed decision-making and the effective identification and management of emerging risks and opportunities.

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

- 3.1 The proposed Policy amendments are tracked in the attachment to this report. While most are minor and/or of a grammatical nature, more substantial changes are noted below along with the rationale behind making them:
- Section 1.1 – the Political risk area has been re-defined, to focus on the Council’s relationship with Government. This follows the discussion held at Workshop 03 June.
 - Section 5.2 – the Analysis section has been updated to better reflect the day-to-day practice of risk assessment. The revised wording recognises that risk analysis is often descriptive in nature, particularly for lower-level operational risks, and that a qualitative assessment may be more meaningful than a fully quantified analysis in some circumstances.
 - Section 6.1 – removed “requires updating” from the control status of “Partially Effective”. This change recognises that some controls may only partially mitigate a risk due to factors outside of Council’s direct control and are not necessarily in need of further improvement.
 - Section 7.2 – reporting frequencies for Extreme and High risks now align with their applicable review schedule, to avoid duplicate reporting of the same risks (where they are not updated in-between reporting schedules).
 - Appendix 1 – reduced the appetite level for the Environmental risk area and updated its description accordingly. Updated the Political risk area description in accordance with the shift in focus towards the external relationship with Government.
- 3.2 Council is asked to re-adopt the Risk Management Policy, with or without amendments.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

4.1 There are no risks associated with this report (ironically).

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 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 No community engagement is warranted.

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 There are no statutory requirements for this report.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

9.1 The Policy changes, and any amendments suggested in this meeting, will be finalised and the Policy published.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- Risk Management Policy



Risk Management Policy

Adopted:	20 June 2024
Review Frequency	Two yearly
Date Last Reviewed	-
Next review:	2028
Policy type:	Governance
Policy owner:	GM Corporate
Version number:	P346

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1 Introduction

The Risk Management Policy sets out the basis for managing risk across the Council. The assessment of risk is an ever present and vital component of decision-making at all levels.

This Policy is intended to provide a pragmatic and integrated approach to risk management for the organisation, and has been prepared using guidance laid down in ISO 31000:2018.

1.1 Risk Areas

The Council measures risk impacts against the following areas:

Risk Area	Description
People & Capability	Factors relating to staff morale, retention and recruitment. This includes the ability to source skills from external parties.
Service Delivery	Disruptions to services, activities and projects.
Reputational	How the Council is viewed in the eyes of <u>by</u> the public <u>and other stakeholders</u> , and the potential for negative publicity.
Legal Compliance	The Council is subject to a wide array of complex legislation. Breaches can result in varying levels of legal action and intervention.
Financial & Investment	Financial loss and over-expenditure.
Health, Safety & Wellbeing	The potential for harm to come to people, both physically and psychologically.
Environmental	Damage to built structures and natural environments.
Cultural	The appropriate consideration of cultural factors in decision-making, and avoidance of giving offence.
Political	Impacts on the Council's relationship and reputation with central government. Potential for loss of confidence from elected members, and inappropriate political intervention in operational matters.

1.2 Key Relevant Documents

The Risk Management Policy should be read in conjunction with the below policies:

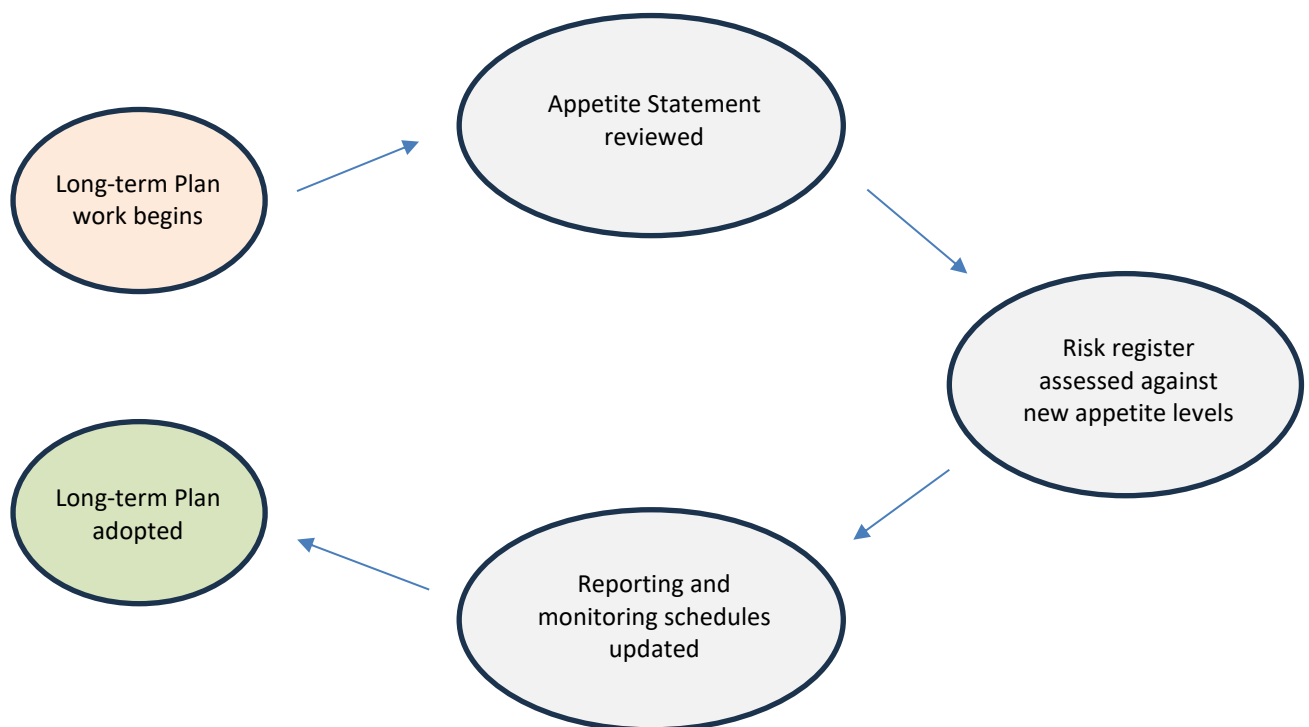
- Child Protection Policy
- Conflicts of Interest and Gifts Policy
- Fraud and Corruption Policy
- Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy
- Information Management Policy
- Investment Policy
- Liability Management Policy
- People Safety Monitoring Policy
- Significance and Engagement Policy
- Wellbeing Policy

1.3 Definitions

Term	Description
Control	A preventative measure, or treatment, that decreases the likelihood and/or impacts of a risk.
Event	A risk that has occurred, <u>or an ongoing issue. Also called an 'issue'.</u>
Impact	The consequences of a risk occurring.
Inherent risk	<u>The level of risk before any controls are considered. A risk score that does not take any controls into account.</u>
Likelihood	The estimated chance of a risk occurring <u>with</u> in a 12-month period.
Opportunity	<u>Positive uncertainty that could improve outcomes or objectives if it occurs. The opposite of risk.</u>
Owner	The individual <u>staff member</u> responsible for managing a risk or control.
Residual risk	<u>The level of risk remaining after controls have been applied. A risk score that factors in the effectiveness of one or more controls.</u>
Risk	<u>Negative uncertainty that could damage outcomes or objectives if it occurs. The opposite of opportunity. Uncertainty – anything that could happen, but has not happened yet.</u>
Risk Assessment Tool	A tool that <u>officers-staff</u> use to enter risks onto the Risk Register.

1.4 Review Cycle

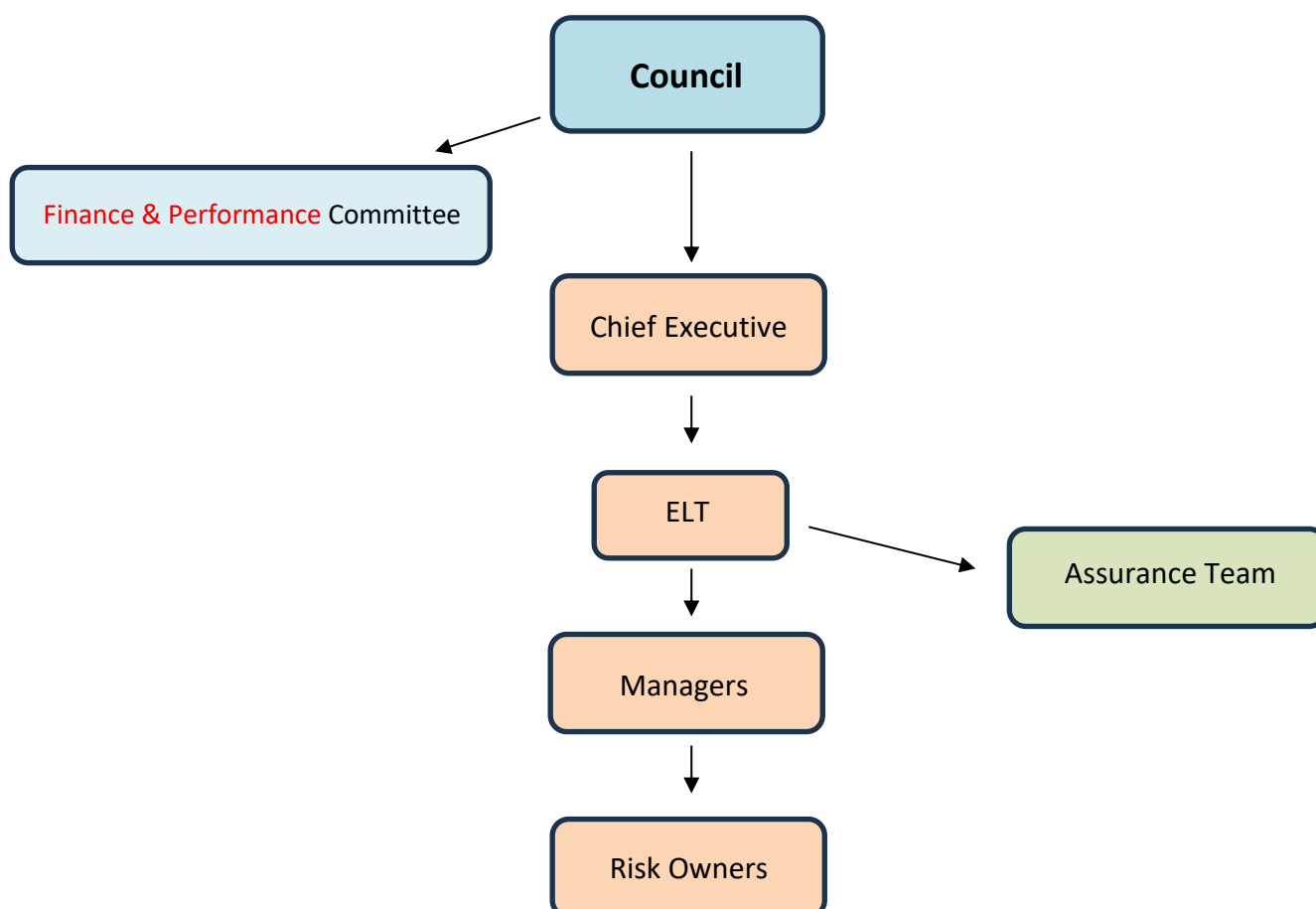
This Policy is subject to formal review every three years, and is aligned with the Long-term Plan. The Council's risk management procedures are also subject to minor adjustments at an operational level.



2 Responsibilities

The Council's risk management governance structure is illustrated below. While individual risks typically have a single owner in order to encourage accountability, collective oversight is provided by managers, the Assurance team, executive leadership, and Governance.

Level	Roles
Council	Elected members are responsible for articulating strategic risks, and ensuring that an appropriate risk management framework is in place.
Audit & Risk Finance & Performance Committee	Responsible for proposing the Council's appetite for risk, and providing governance oversight of risk management procedures <u>and receiving regular updates on risk and assurance.</u>
Chief Executive	Responsible for ensuring that decisions and directives from Governance are implemented by staff, and that staff are sufficiently resourced.
Executive Leadership Team (ELT)	General Managers are responsible for the day-to-day monitoring of strategic risks, and ongoing oversight of operational risks. Approval of risks that are outside of the Council's appetite.
Assurance Team	Responsible for implementing adjustments to the risk management framework and monitoring its effectiveness.
Managers	Approval of risks and controls that are within the Council's appetite.
Risk Owners	Individual staff will take responsibility for risks within their area, and for relevant controls and control improvement plans.



2.1 Training and External Advice

Council officers are responsible for ensuring that elected members receive adequate training on risk management, particularly towards the beginning of the electoral triennium and prior to the Appetite Statement being reviewed. Where beneficial and cost-effective, it may be prudent to seek external advice from third-party experts in risk management.

It is also incumbent on the Assurance Team to ensure that ~~officers-staff~~ who are required to interact with the Risk Management Framework are appropriately briefed and trained. The Assurance Team will make themselves freely available to staff in order to provide guidance and expertise.

3 Risk Appetite Statement

The Council's risk appetite is broken down into 9 key risk areas, and reflects the level of risk that elected members are prepared to accept in the pursuit of positive outcomes and opportunities. The current Risk Appetite Statement is attached to this Policy (Appendix 1).

This statement is intended to be a **guide** only. Its purpose is to assist elected members in adopting a consistent approach to risk and decision-making, setting in place appropriate approval levels, and helping staff with assessing whether a proposal is likely to align with the Council's appetite for risk.

3.1 Assessing a Risk's alignment with the Risk Appetite

Risks that are beyond the Council's risk appetite require General Manager approval.

For the purpose of determining whether a risk is within or beyond the Council's appetite, a risk's impact levels can be compared against the equivalent appetite levels. For example, the impact level of 4 (Moderate) aligns with the appetite level of 3 (Cautious). This is shown in the below table and demonstrated in two scenarios:

Impact Level	Appetite Level
16 – Worst-Case Critical	5 – Ambitious
8 – Severe	4 – Open
4 – Moderate	3 – Cautious
2 – Minor	2 – Minimalist
1 - Insignificant	1 – Averse

Scenario 1

A risk is assessed as having an impact level of **4 (Moderate)** in the Health, Safety & Wellbeing risk area, and the Council's stated appetite level for this area is **2 (Minimalist)**. In this case, the risk is *beyond* the Council's risk appetite and will require General Manager approval.

Scenario 2

A risk is assessed as having an impact level of **8 (Severe)** in the Political risk area, and the Council's current appetite level for this area is **4 (Open)**. In this case, the risk is *within* the Council's risk appetite.

The Risk Assessment Tool will automatically assess whether a risk is within or beyond the Council’s current appetite for risk.

There are exceptional circumstances that may justify the Council accepting a risk that is assessed to be beyond the current risk appetite, such as when:

- The potential outcomes of a proposed course of action outweigh the elevated risk ~~are likely to be very positive~~;
- External influences are beyond the Council’s control;
- The risk will only be beyond the appetite level for a short time (e.g., due to new controls); or
- The risk is unavoidable.

4 Types of Risk

The Council distinguishes between three types of risk:

Type of Risk	Description
Strategic	Strategic risks are those that threaten the organisation’s strategic priorities. Ongoing monitoring of these risks and their controls falls to Executive Leadership, and they are reported to the <u>Finance & Performance</u> Audit & Risk Committee.
Operational	Operational risks are owned by individual staff. Extreme and High risks are reported to the <u>Finance & Performance</u> Audit & Risk Committee.
Project	Project risks are managed independently of the risk register by project teams, with the project manager generally assuming ownership. Project risks that continue to be relevant after the completion of a project will either become operational or be transferred to a third-party.

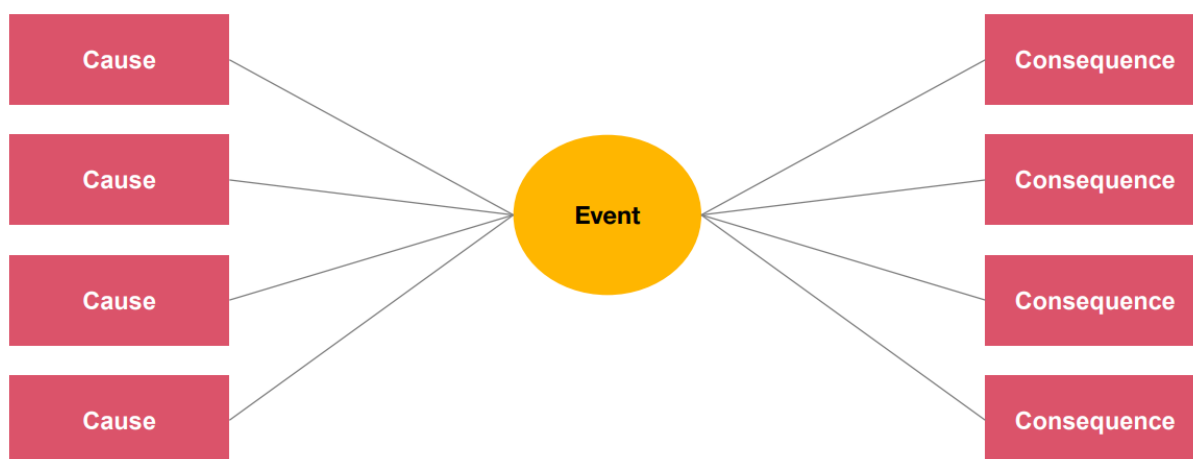
5 Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is generally split into three phases:

1. Identification
2. Analysis
3. Evaluation

5.1 Identification

This is largely an intuitive exercise, and involves thinking about what types of risk might present themselves when implementing certain decisions or carrying out BAU work. A helpful model that may assist with the identification of risk is called the “Bowtie method”, illustrated below:



This model breaks down a risk into its **causes** which should be prevented, the **event** (i.e., when the risk happens) which needs to be identified and **consequences** which should be responded to.

5.2 Analysis

Risk analysis involves considering the likelihood and potential impacts of a risk, as well as the effectiveness of any existing or proposed controls. Controls are a key component of risk analysis, as they may reduce the likelihood of a risk occurring, lessen its consequences, or improve the Council's ability to identify and respond to the risk at an earlier stage.

Analysis may be either qualitative or quantitative depending on the nature, complexity and significance of the risk. In many cases, a descriptive assessment of the risk and its alignment with the Council's risk appetite may be more meaningful than a full metric-based assessment.

Where appropriate, risks may quantifiably be assessed using the Council's Risk Matrix to determine:~~This is the quantifiable phase of the process and has two parts:~~

1. An inherent risk score – the level of risk before controls are applied;~~and~~A risk is measured against both its likelihood and impacts to get an **inherent** risk score ('raw' risk that does not take account of any possible controls).
2. A residual risk score – the level of risk remaining after controls are applied.~~Controls are explored and taken into account, and the risk is then re-measured against its likelihood and impacts in order to get a **residual** risk score.~~

~~A Risk Matrix is used to assess the severity of a risk, by multiplying the **likelihood** (1– Rare, to 5– Almost Certain) and **impact** (1– Insignificant, to 16– Worst Case). This provides a Risk Score between 1 (Very Low) and 80 (Extreme).~~

The Council's Risk Matrix is attached to this Policy (Appendix 2).

The Risk Assessment Tool is available a user friendly aid designed to assist staff with this process in undertaking risk analysis where appropriate.

5.3 Evaluation

The purpose of risk evaluation is to support decision-making, and involves the consideration of further actions in response to the risk analysis. For example:

- Are there control improvement plans that should be put in place to further reduce the risk?

- How should the risk be justified in pursuit of seeking a positive outcome or opportunity?
- Should objectives be reconsidered if the risk is too great?

6 Controls

Selecting the most appropriate controls involves balancing the potential risk reduction that will be gained against the costs, effort or disadvantages of implementing them. It is often not feasible to implement all identifiable controls, and personal judgement will be required in selecting which ones provide sufficient value.

6.1 Effectiveness and Status of Controls

Controls should ~~effectively~~ reduce the likelihood and/or impacts of an ~~inherent~~ risk. There are several ways this can ~~take place~~occur, including:

- Avoiding certain activities;
- Removing sources of the risk;
- Sharing the risk with other parties (e.g., insurance, contractual agreements);
- Reducing risk outcomes through mitigating practices or systems; and
- Implementing measures that help to identify eventuating risks earlier.

The status of controls refers to whether they are actively in place, in the process of being implemented, or are planned (see Section 6.2). Controls will ~~therefore~~ have one of the below categorisations within the Risk Register:

- ~~Current and fully~~Fully effective;
- Partially effective ~~(requires updating)~~; or
- Planned

6.2 Control Improvement Plans

The implementation and monitoring of controls is an ongoing process and the owner of a risk typically (but not always) bears ownership of its associated controls.

The implementation of new controls, or the enhancement of existing ones, is an ongoing activity that is subject to formal review (every 6 to 12 months depending on the risk's severity). ~~At a minimum, control~~Control improvement plans should identify the following:

- Costs and resources;
- Benefits;
- ~~Responsibility~~Who is responsible for implementing; and
- ~~Estimated~~Due dates.

Due to the interrelated nature of Council activities, it may be appropriate for other staff to play a role in the planning and implementation of control improvement plans.

These plans can be recorded within the relevant risk's entry in the risk register – they do not require additional documentation.

7 Monitoring, Review and Reporting

7.1 Monitoring and Review

While the monitoring of risks and their controls is an ongoing exercise, they should be formally reviewed every 6 to 12 months depending on the residual risk score (see below table). Approval levels are required for this review – including manager level approval, and General Manager approval for ~~these~~ risks that sit beyond the Council’s risk appetite.

This is also an ~~appropriate time~~ opportunity for the effectiveness of existing controls to be re-considered and ~~an opportunity for~~ new controls to be identified.

7.2 Reporting

Operational risks are subject to reporting, with the levels and schedule of this being determined by the residual risk score, as below:

Risk Score	Review Schedule	Reporting Levels
Extreme	6 monthly	Executive Leadership – quarterly <u>6 monthly</u>
High	6 monthly	Audit & Risk <u>Finance & Performance</u> Committee – 6 monthly
Medium	6 monthly	Executive Leadership – annually
Low	Annually	Nil
Very Low	Nil – risks of this severity are not entered onto the risk register, but are managed as part of regular work	Nil

The review period and reporting schedule will be automatically calculated when a risk is entered onto the risk register via the Risk Assessment Tool. This will notify risk owners of the appropriate actions required and create approval workflows within the risk register.

Appendix 1 – Risk Appetite Statement ~~2026~~ 2024

Risk appetite is the level of risk that we are willing to accept in the pursuit of positive outcomes.

A higher appetite generally means that the Council and officers can make more aspirational decisions, be innovative and pursue future opportunities. Nevertheless, there will be certain risks that the Council is not prepared to accept and MDC’s appetite varies across different areas of risk. These levels are reflected in the below table.

Maintaining an optimistic risk appetite is contingent upon having effective mechanisms in place to accurately assess risk severity, and understanding all potential benefits when considering decisions.

MDC expects all decision-makers to take the following risk appetite levels into account:

Risk Areas	Averse	Minimalist	Cautious	Open	Ambitious
People & Capability	Open				
Service Delivery	Cautious-Open				
Reputational	Cautious				
Legal Compliance	Averse-Minimalist				
Financial & Investment	Cautious				
Health, Safety & Wellbeing	Minimalist				
Environmental	Open Cautious-Open				
Cultural	Cautious				
Political	Open				

Appetite levels are defined as:

Ambitious	Due to the potential for very high reward, the Council is willing to aspirationally seek out positive outcomes and try new ways of conducting business.
Open	The Council is prepared to proactively take risks in this area where there is the potential for high reward and value for money.
Cautious	Opportunities will be broadly considered, but only where a careful analysis of risk-reward provides a solid justification for decision-making.
Minimalist	Risk-taking is only considered where it is essential to achieving the Council’s core objectives and priorities.
Averse	The Council has no appetite for risks in this area. No opportunities will warrant risk-taking, regardless of the possible benefits.

People & Capability – The Council has an OPEN appetite. Morale is a constantly evolving factor in organisational capability, and increasing staff’s commitment to MDC is vital to ensuring that performance is at its highest levels. New initiatives in organisational culture, staff management and recruitment, can result in increased performance and more valuable contributions from MDC staff.

Service Delivery – The Council has a CAUTIOUS to OPEN appetite. Continuous improvement in MDC's processes, systems and tools, are essential to increasing the range of services we offer and in providing value for ratepayer money. Trying new ways of doing things carries inherent risks to our service delivery, but are crucial in ensuring that the way MDC delivers its services remain relevant and efficient.

Reputational – The Council has a CAUTIOUS appetite. MDC's reputation is a raw measure of how the community perceives us. While it's important that the community is happy with the job that elected members and staff are doing, many decisions are complex and will have long-term payoffs, potentially risking public criticism in the short-term.

Legal Compliance – The Council has an AVERSE to MINIMALIST appetite. While legal compliance is not optional, failure to comply can often be accidental and/or minor. There can also be ambiguity with competing pieces of legislation or national policy, and at times it may be worth pursuing a positive outcome in spite of the risk of non-compliance.

Financial & Investment – The Council has a CAUTIOUS appetite. Many decisions that MDC implements have uncertain financial impacts. Where appropriate, risks of financial loss or overspend are appropriate in the pursuit of positive opportunities.

Health, Safety & Wellbeing – The Council has a MINIMALIST appetite. Risks in this category can be unavoidable (driving MDC vehicles, for instance). While they need to be controlled for as much as possible, avoiding all HS&W risks is impossible. Some risks may be acceptable if positive outcomes could potentially increase staff health, safety and wellness instead.

Environmental – The Council has a CAUTIOUS to OPEN appetite. Environmental outcomes are often influenced by changing legislation, national direction, and policy. While the Council is prepared to pursue positive environmental opportunities, these decisions require careful consideration of potential risks and future regulatory change.

~~There is often tension between environmental outcomes and social or economic outcomes. At times it may be necessary to accept risks to natural and built environments in the quest for positive outcomes in other areas.~~

Cultural – The Council has a CAUTIOUS appetite. MDC has many diverse communities, whose interests are not always perfectly aligned. There may be occasions where it's necessary to accept risks in this space in order to pursue positive outcomes and opportunities for specific communities, or for the District as a whole.

Political – The Council has an OPEN appetite. Central government decisions can have a significant impact on local government. The Council is prepared to engage proactively with the government of the day and adapt to changes in legislation, national direction, and policy where this supports positive outcomes for the community.

~~MDC processes are complicated, with a lot of external influences affecting how we do our work. This complexity naturally gives rise to risks around both elected members and staff performance. These risks have to be accepted in many situations, and the strong positive relationship between members and staff act as a buffer to any failings on either party.~~

Appendix 2 – Risk Matrix

Likelihood		Risk <u>Level</u> (Score)				
5	Almost Certain	Low (5)	Medium (10)	High (20)	Extreme (40)	Extreme (80)
4	Likely	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (16)	Extreme (32)	Extreme (64)
3	Possible	Very Low (3)	Low (6)	Medium (12)	High (24)	Extreme (48)
2	Unlikely	Very Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (16)	Extreme (32)
1	Rare	Very Low (1)	Very Low (2)	Low (4)	Medium (8)	High (16)
Impact		1	2	4	8	16
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Severe	Critical Worst Case