



Council Agenda

Thursday 21 August 2025, 8:30 am

The meeting will be held at Hato Hone St Johns,
35 Bowen Street, Feilding, and a video recording
made available on www.mdc.govt.nz.

www.mdc.govt.nz

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson

Her Worship the Mayor, Helen Worboys

Deputy Chairperson

Councillor Michael Ford

Members

Councillor Bridget Bell
Councillor Steve Bielski
Councillor Lara Blackmore
Councillor Stuart Campbell
Councillor Grant Hadfield
Councillor Colin McFadzean
Councillor Andrew Quarrie
Councillor Kerry Quigley
Councillor Alison Short
Councillor Fiona Underwood

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Shayne Harris'.

Shayne Harris
Chief Executive

ORDER OF BUSINESS

PAGE

1. MEETING OPENING

Cr Fiona Underwood will open the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

Cr Kerry Quigley is on a pre-approved leave of absence.

3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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Recommendation

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 7 August 2025 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

There are no public forum speakers scheduled for this meeting.

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1 REPRESENTATIVE FUND - NATIONAL U18 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Elan Hinks will be in attendance to speak to Council.

6.2 REPRESENTATIVE FUND - MANAWATU NETBALL UNDER 16s

Jordie-Lee Kotuhi will be in attendance to speak to Council.

6.3 REPRESENTATIVE FUND - MANAWATU BASKETBALL REGIONALS

Sienna Faye Kotuhi will be in attendance to speak 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

There are no recommendations from committees.

9. NON-COUNCIL MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

9.1 COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the following Council Committees, Community Committees and Youth Council 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 7 to 20 August 2025

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETINGS	
Āpiti Community Committee	• 14 August 2025
Bainesse-Rangiotu Community Committee	• 20 August 2025
Glen Oroua-Taikorea Community Committee	• 19 August 2025
Hiwinui Community Committee	• 19 August 2025
Kimbolton Community Committee	• 11 August 2025
Kiwitea Community Committee	• 20 August 2025
Pohangina Valley Community Committee	• 13 August 2025
Rangiwahia Community Committee	• 20 August 2025
Sanson Community Committee	• 14 August 2025
Tangimoana Community Committee	• 18 August 2025
https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/committees-and-organisations/community-committees-and-plans	

YOUTH COUNCIL MEETINGS	
Meeting	• 18 August 2025
https://www.mdc.govt.nz/about-council/committees-and-organisations/mdc-youth-council/youth-council-meeting-minutes	

9.2 MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

Councillors will have the opportunity to update Council about the marae committee.

10. OFFICER REPORTS

10.1 FEILDING AND DISTRICT PROMOTION – ANNUAL REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2025

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Report of the General Manager – Community.

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10.2 SPORT MANAWATŪ – ANNUAL REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2025	35

Report of the General Manager – Community.

10.3 ADOPTION OF THE WATER SERVICES DELIVERY PLAN	64
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Report of the General Manager – Infrastructure.

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. Confirmation of Minutes; 07 August 2025
2. Tender Award MC1961 New Ultra-Violet System at the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant
3. 2025 Community Honours

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; 07 August 2025	<i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 07 August 2025.</i> <i>Any changes to previous minutes may require members to discuss the content of the public excluded session.</i>	s48(1)(a)
14.1 Tender Award MC1961 New Ultra-Violet System at the Manawatū Wastewater Treatment Plant	s7(2)(i) – commercial negotiations The report includes details about commercially sensitive negotiations	s48(1)(a)
14.2 2025 Community Honours	s7(2)(a) – privacy The report includes personal details about the nominees for the 2025 Community Honours and their nominators	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
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

Minutes of a meeting of the Council held on Thursday 07 August 2025, which commenced at 8.31 am at Hato Hone St Johns, 35 Bowen Street, Feilding.

PRESENT: Mayor Helen Worboys Chairperson
 Cr Bridget Bell
 Cr Steve Bielski
 Cr Lara Blackmore
 Cr Michael Ford
 Cr Grant Hadfield
 Cr Colin McFadzean
 Cr Andrew Quarrie
 Cr Kerry Quigley
 Cr Alison Short
 Cr Fiona Underwood

APOLOGIES: Cr Stuart Campbell

IN ATTENDANCE:	Shayne Harris	Chief Executive
	Hamish Waugh	General Manager – Infrastructure
	Frances Smorti	General Manager – People and Corporate
	Lyn Daly	General Manager – Community
	Amanda Calman	Chief Financial Officer
	Ash Garstang	Governance and Assurance Manager
	Matthew Mackay	Principal Policy Planner
	Richard Hills	Senior Policy Planner
	Daniel Batley	Consultant Planner

MDC 22-25/1238

MEETING OPENING

Martin Baldwin from the Feilding Baptist Church opened the meeting with prayer.

MDC 22-25/1239

APOLOGIES

Cr Stuart Campbell was on a pre-approved leave of absence.

MDC 22-25/1240

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Council meeting held 24 July 2025 be adopted as a true and correct record.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Kerry Quigley

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

CARRIED (11-0)

MDC 22-25/1241

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

MDC 22-25/1242

PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests for public forum.

MDC 22-25/1243

**PRESENTATION – REPRESENTATIVE FUND PRESENTATION – FEILDING
INTERMEDIATE: AGRIKIDS NATIONAL COMPETITION**

Eight students from Feilding Intermediate talked to Council about attending the AgriKidsNZ 2025 competition:

- There were 7 modules and 60 questions around general farming knowledge.
- Prior to the event, the participants completed various community-oriented tasks to earn points.

MDC 22-25/1244

**PRESENTATION – REPRESENTATIVE FUND – VANTAGE NATIONAL U18
MEN'S TOURNAMENT (HOCKEY)**

Ephriam Yearbury was in attendance speaking to Council attending this hockey tournament.

- Ephriam fell ill five days before the tournament, but still attended. He was unable to play in the first couple of games, but played in the last four games. His illness was disappointing as it affected his performance in front of national selectors.
- He thanked the Council for their support towards his travel costs.
- He is looking to continue building his skills and will compete as much as he can within the region.

MDC 22-25/1245

NOTIFICATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items of business notified for consideration.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

MDC 22-25/1246

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

There were no recommendations from committees.

MDC 22-25/1247

COMMITTEE AND GROUP MEETINGS – FOR INFORMATION

The following Council Committees, Community Committees and Youth Council meetings were notified for information.

COMMUNITY COMMITTEES	
Halcombe Community Committee	• 4 August 2025
Himatangi Beach Community Committee	• 24 July 2025
Rongotea Community Development Group	• 4 August 2025
Waituna West Community Committee	• 6 August 2025

YOUTH COUNCIL	
Meeting	• 04 August 2025

Liaison Councillors provided brief updates on their respective Committees.

- Halcombe Community Committee – Cr Colin McFadzean. The Committee has made the hall available for the cycle tour, and there is planning around the harrier event upcoming.
- Himatangi Community Committee – Cr Andrew Quarrie. The Committee is looking to create a viewing platform behind the dairy.
- Rongotea Community Development Group – Cr Fiona Underwood. There are concerns regarding the adequacy of the street lighting, since the bulbs have been replaced with LED lights. There are concerns around areas that are too dark. Cr Andrew Quarrie raised a concern around street lighting by the playcentre. Staff will liaise with Cr Underwood and Cr Quarrie.
- Waituna West Community Committee – Cr Kerry Quigley. The Committee had no concerns.
- Youth Council – Cr Lara Blackmore. Met on 28 July (not 04 August). The Youth Council debriefed on the Youth Market, and are looking ahead towards the Young Achievers Awards on 15 September 2025.
- Tangimoana Community – Cr Alison Short. Tangimoana had another event with the Deep South Project. The school has been working with Bruce Glavovic from Massey, and they invited the community to attend and see what they have been learning about. The school children discussed various ways the Community might respond to changing environmental conditions in the future.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

MDC 22-25/1248

MARAE LIAISON COUNCILLORS

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

- Parewahawaha Marae – Cr Alison Short had a catch up with Cliff Brown. They recently had their AGM. They have been working with the Māori Land Court to get their trustees updated. Unfortunately while this was in progress the bank froze the Marae's accounts, but they now have access again. They have had ongoing engagement with the NZ Defence Force around consents for a fuel storage facility. The Marae Committee are also redecorating two of their housing units.
- Poupatatē Marae – Cr Bridget Bell. She was invited to the marae on the weekend. She noted it was good to see young people on the Marae Committee. They are hosting Central Energy Trust and Margaret Kouvelis soon around looking at funding for their kitchen.
- Cr Bridget Bell – she has attended meetings with the Chairman of Kauwhata Ngāti Te Ao and Te Tikanga Marae. They are looking forward to the market day that Te Kōtui Reo are hosting to acknowledge their creative artists. They are keen to have an event specifically centred on art. There are also discussions around the Māori referendum. Cr Bell thanked staff for their attendance at the papakāinga housing hui, and advised that they have had very good feedback on this event.

MDC 22-25/1249

ADOPTION OF GROWTH FRAMEWORK 2025

Report of the General Manager – Community seeking Council approval to adopt the Manawātū Growth Framework 2025 (the Growth Framework). The Growth Framework has the purpose of guiding Council's future growth and development programme. It replaces the earlier Feilding Framework Plan of 2013.

Adoption of a Growth Framework helps Council prepare for the 2027 Long-Term Plan. It is an important interim step as Council responds to the changing Central Government housing and infrastructure priorities.

RESOLVED

That the Council adopt the Manawātū Growth Framework 2025.

Moved by: Cr Michael Ford

Seconded by: Cr Grant Hadfield

CARRIED (11-0)

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

MDC 22-25/1250

CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items notified for consideration.

MDC 22-25/1251

PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLVED

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes; 25 July 2025

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; 24 July 2025	<i>To consider the accuracy of the minutes of the public excluded Council meeting on 24 July 2025.</i> <i>Any changes to previous minutes may require members to discuss the content of the public excluded session.</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.

Moved by: Mayor Helen Worboys

Seconded by: Cr Lara Blackmore

CARRIED (11-0)

The meeting went into public excluded session at 9.36 am. For items MDC 22-25/1252 to MDC 22-25/1253 refer to public excluded proceedings. The meeting returned to open session at 9.37 am.

MEETING MINUTES	
COUNCIL	TIME
THURSDAY 07 AUGUST 2025	8:31 AM

MDC 22-25/1254

MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting was declared closed at 9.37 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 21 August 2025

Business Unit: Community
Date Created: 08 August 2025

Feilding and District Promotion – Annual Report to 30 June 2025

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To present for acknowledgement the Feilding & District Promotion Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2025 as required under the contract between Feilding & District Promotion and Manawātū District Council.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Council acknowledge receipt of the Feilding & District Promotion Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2025, and note that Feilding & District Promotion has met its reporting obligations under the current contract.

Report prepared by:
Ross Patching
Development Navigator

Approved for submission by:
Lyn Daly
General Manager - Community

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

Arrangements for the reporting period to 30 June 2025

- 1.1. On June 2022 Manawātū District Council (Council) agreed to enter into a direct procurement arrangement with Feilding & District Promotion (FDP). Council's preference was for the procurement arrangement to be based on a priority services contract approach with key performance indicators (KPI's), developed by Council and the FDP Board. The KPI's were based on delivery of services for the provision of event planning and district promotion, networking support and advocacy, and information centre services. The contract term was for one year from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 with an option to extend the term of contract for a further two x one-year periods dependent on Council's satisfaction with performance.

Over many years FDP has been impacted by Board member and staffing changes, and while FDP did not meet all of its contracted KPI's during the period of this contract, Council decided to give new board members and staff time to settle into their respective roles at each of the annual review points.

Now in the final year of the contracted period, this annual report comments on performance against the contracted key performance indicators (KPI's) relating to events, business support and advocacy, and information centre services through to 30 June 2025.

Arrangements from 1 July 2025

- 1.2. At the Council meeting on 6 June 2024, Council asked that Officers bring back a paper for Council to consider with options for the future delivery of events, business support and advocacy, district promotion, and information centre services beyond June 2025.

A paper was presented to Council on 5 December 2024 with options and Council agreed that:

- Council's Manawātū Community Hub Libraries team provide the customer facing information centre services (effective from March 2025); and
- an operational grant be allocated to FDP of \$500,000 plus CPI, for a 3-year period from 01 July 2025 – 30 June 2028 for the service delivery focus areas outlined in the report.

The service delivery focus areas included in the report that requires six-monthly reporting from 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2028 are:

Description	Activities supported by an operational grant
Community Events	Support community run events through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocacy: Encouragement to promote in the right places and the right mediums;• Event Promotion: Helping to put community events on EventFinda, posters put up around town, promoting events on social media, a monthly events calendar in the Feilding & Rangitikei Herald, manage the What's On section of the feilding.co.nz website, manage the information

Description	Activities supported by an operational grant
	<p>signs at the entrances to Feilding, and any other actions to support event promotion;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design: Help with design if required by community events • Coordination and/or delivering a minimum of 5 events that bring the community together, support economic development, and celebrate the uniqueness of our district. Some examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural Day ○ Christmas Carnival and Parade ○ Have a Go Days ○ Manawatū Hunt event ○ Biennial Business Awards ○ Kids 'N Country (in conjunction with Rural Games); and • Coordination of the Saleyard Tours (managing volunteers, etc).
Town Centre Activation	<p>As a minimum, activate the Town Centre by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating and/or delivering a minimum of 6 events that bring the community to the Town Centre; • Management of the Friday Farmers Market in the Square; • Encouraging bookings in the grassed quadrant and market quadrant throughout the year, and coordinate events at Manfeild Park, Feilding Civic Centre, Manawatū Community Hub Libraries, Coach House Museum, etc to flow into the Town Centre; • Organising regular Eat Street events; • Coordinating shop local campaigns; • Managing the MDC supplied street flags in the CBD; • Encouraging more buskers to play on the footpath outside businesses (with Council and the business' approval); • Administering removable furniture (e.g. bean bags) and games for use in the Square; and • Encouraging building owners and tenants to show pride for Feilding.
Networking Support	<p>As a minimum, support the local businesses in the Manawatū District by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivering a Bi-Annual Business Awards; • Organising/coordinating monthly networking events (including Biz@5 events); • Coordinating shop local campaigns; • Administering the CBD Security contract on behalf of Council; • Leading the security camera project for Feilding; • Helping businesses navigate the services and training that CEDA and the Chamber of Commerce provide; • Helping to attract new businesses to the Manawatū District; • Celebrating new businesses in the Manawatū District; and • Developing a relationship with the businesses to understand their needs, aspirations and concerns, and advise Council on topics of concern.
District Promotion	<p>Promote the Manawatū District through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media campaigns; • Coordination of information about the District (what's on, where to eat, where to stay) to inform the Feilding Information Centre at Te Āhuru Mōwai;

Description	Activities supported by an operational grant
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop promotional material (e.g. flyers) to advertise what to do, where to stay, where to eat, etc to stock the brochure stand at the Feilding Information Centre at Te Āhuru Mōwai; • Managing the feilding.co.nz website, including the databases of businesses and clubs/groups in the district; • Facilitate, encourage and maintain a “what’s on” calendar of events and activities for the community to consume; • Create an annual advertising programme across all mediums promoting our town centre – key messages are shop local, free parking, no traffic lights, friendly service etc.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 The contract to deliver and coordinate events, networking support, district promotion and information centre services relates to all six priorities of Council.

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

- 3.1 Council Officers are appreciative of the efforts made by the FDP Board and Manager to share information and to work collaboratively with Council and other entities such as Manfeild Park, the Feilding Civic Centre, Coach House Museum, and the Central Economic Development Agency (CEDA).
- 3.2 The FDP Board and staff continue to work with the community to enhance events, promote activity within the district, and engage with the business community. The FDP Team moved into their new location in the Square in February this year, and during this time transitioned the customer facing information centre services to Council’s Manawatū Community Hub Libraries team to deliver at Te Āhuru Mōwai.

Some highlights from the FDP annual report are:

- 3.3 FDP’s relocation to the Central Business District (CBD) has notably increased its visibility and community engagement, strengthening ties with local businesses and organisations.
- After 30 years, the Information Centre has been relocated to the Manawatū Community Hub Libraries team at Te Āhuru Mōwai, creating a more accessible and centralised service point operating six days a week (previously five days a week). This strategic move enhances visitor convenience and allows FDP staff greater flexibility to engage with the community through events and activities, strengthening unity across the town and district.
 - Strengthening partnerships with major stakeholders and venues (CEDA, Manfeild, Feilding Civic Centre, the Coach House Museum and others) in the District has been evident over the last 12 months.
 - The lift in the number of events FDP have supported in the last 12 months, from 161 to 225 events is encouraging to see.

4 Risk Assessment **Te Arotake Tūraru**

- 4.1 There are no risks associated with the recommendation to receive this report. Feilding & District Promotion has fulfilled its reporting obligations under the contract, and no decision is being sought that would alter service delivery or create new risk.

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 While there is no community engagement associated with this report for Council, FDP's services involve engagement with the community and seeking feedback to understand satisfaction with the services delivered.

6 Operational Implications **Ngā Pānga Whakahaere**

- 6.1 There are no operational implications associated with this report.

7 Financial Implications **Ngā Pānga Ahumoni**

- 7.1 The total cost of the priority services contract that Council had with FDP for this reporting period was \$436,000 per annum and was within the existing budget. This contract ended on 30 June 2025.
- 7.2 FDP are now in their new contract for the 3-year period 01 July 2025 to 30 June 2028. An annual operational grant to FDP of \$500,000 plus CPI has been budgeted.

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

- 8.1 FDP have contractual obligations to present to Council their six monthly and annual reports over the term of the contract.

9 Next Steps **Te Kokenga**

- 9.1 FDP will present their six monthly report for the period 01 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 to a Council meeting in early 2026.

10 Attachments **Ngā Āpitihanga**

- Feilding & District Promotion Annual report to 30 June 2025

- [Link to previous 6 Monthly report - FDP July to December 2024](#)
- For Reference – Council agenda item 10.1



**Feilding
& District**
PROMOTION INC

ANNUAL COUNCIL REPORT

JULY 2024 -JUNE 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

JULY 2024–JUNE 2025

Over the past year, a key milestone has been the strategic decision to relocate FDP operations back to the CBD a move that significantly enhances our visibility, accessibility, and engagement within the heart of the community. This transition has already led to stronger connections with local businesses, event organizers, and the wider community, reinforcing our presence and purpose.

Complementing this shift was the relocation of the Information Centre, after 30 years, to the Manawatū Community Hub Library (MCHL). Operating six days a week, this new, centralised service point provides visitors with an accessible space to explore a wide range of services, making it a logical and strategic new home for the Information Centre. The move also provides FDP staff with greater flexibility to connect with the community and foster a stronger sense of unity across our town and district through events, activities and promotions.

Another major highlight has been the deepening of relationships with key stakeholders including Council, CEDA, Manawatū Car Club, Feilding Art Society, Ngāti Kauwhata, and venue partners such as Manfeild, Civic Centre, and Coach House Museum. These partnerships have played a pivotal role in amplifying FDP's contribution to community engagement and economic vibrancy.

Lastly, we are proud of all the achievements we have made supporting local events, marketing and promotional activities, managing and delivering events and business support. The following pages highlight and showcase the impact of our efforts across these areas:

GENERAL SUPPORT OF LOCAL EVENTS

Feilding & District Promotion (FDP) has proudly supported 225 community events during the year June 2024 – July 2025 –an increase from 161 events in the same period the previous year. This growth underscores FDP's continued commitment to fostering community engagement and enhancing Feilding's vibrancy through strong promotional support.

225
COMMUNITY EVENTS
SUPPORTED
+39% FROM THE PREVIOUS PERIOD

The support provided encompassed a wide range of promotional activities, including listing events on Eventfinder and feilding.co.nz, developing and sharing Facebook content, town-wide poster placement, corflute signage, school outreach, and guidance on leveraging local media channels such as radio and newspapers. These efforts contributed to successful turnouts and boosted visibility for both recurring and first time events.

Community feedback reinforces the value of FDP's support, with event organizers expressing heartfelt appreciation for efforts that contributed to successful outcomes. Notable testimonials include praise from the Feilding Flying Club and organizers of the Vintage Ag Expo and Live Pro Wrestling, all acknowledging FDP's critical role in event visibility and regional engagement.

FDP also partnered with CEDA to extend regional reach through printed flyers and a shared promotional portal.

By championing these events, FDP continues to promote social connection, economic vitality, and a vibrant local identity.

MARKETING & PROMOTIONS

Feilding & District Promotion (FDP) continues to champion local events, attractions, and businesses through targeted marketing efforts that deliver high visibility and engagement across multiple platforms. Through consistent content delivery on Facebook and the website www.feilding.co.nz, FDP has cultivated a vibrant online presence that supports community connection and local pride.

Themed weekly posts—Mahi Monday (business spotlight), Waka Wednesday (event highlights), and Takahanga Friday (weekend happenings)—have become recognizable touchpoints for followers, reinforcing Feilding's identity as a lively and active community hub.

FDP grew its presence in the Social Media space. Engaging video content featuring local enterprises and destinations has significantly enhanced audience reach and impact, contributing to strong promotional outcomes.

These initiatives reflect FDP's ongoing commitment to community storytelling, and strategic outreach that promotes economic growth and social well-being.



EVENT CREATION & MANAGEMENT

20

EVENTS

REINFORCING COMMUNITY
VIBRANCY AND REGIONAL
VISIBILITY

From June 2024 – July 2025, Feilding & District Promotion (FDP) led, collaborated on, and delivered 20 events that reinforced community vibrancy, and regional visibility.

Alongside these key events, FDP continues to anchor its weekly operations with the consistent management of the Feilding Farmers Market and Sale Yard Tours—staples that highlight Feilding’s local flavour and heritage while ensuring year-round community engagement.

Together, these efforts showcase FDP’s leadership in strengthening Feilding’s identity as a welcoming, dynamic destination for locals and visitors alike.

MANAWATŪ DISTRICT BUSINESS NETWORKS

During the previous year, Feilding & District Promotion (FDP) sustained strong and proactive engagement with the Manawatū business community. Through regular correspondence and targeted event promotions—such as Biz@5 networking evenings and tailored workshop invitations—FDP ensured businesses remained informed, connected, and actively involved in regional opportunities.

The business network database now includes 868 total contacts, comprising business representatives, community groups, and general stakeholders. Of these, 438 are business entities, reflecting FDP’s substantial outreach and relevance across the commercial landscape.

This ongoing communication reinforces FDP’s role as a trusted intermediary and connector.

868

DATABASE BUSINESS
CONTACTS

COMPRISING BUSINESS REPS,
COMMUNITY GROUPS & GENERAL
STAKEHOLDERS

FDP REPORTING

JANUARY - JUNE 2025

MANAWATU DISTRICT EVENTS - GENERAL SUPPORT

FDP proudly supported **120 community events** for the period January – June 2025, an increase from **93 the previous year**—demonstrating its continued commitment to strong promotional support and community engagement.

Our goal is to ensure that our community stays informed about the incredible events happening locally while supporting event organizers to ensure their events/activities are successful.

By providing support for these events, we encourage organizers to return year after year, helping to strengthen Feilding's vibrancy.

The support provided includes helping them list their events on eventfinder, feilding.co.nz, sharing or creating FB posts, putting up posters around town, town corflute signage, sending out to schools where appropriate, advising about other local channels including radio, local paper, event signage.

Community events enhance vibrancy, social well-being, and economic growth.

Among the standout occasions during this reporting period where **The Feilding Flyer & The Whanganui Wanderer** – Wellington Anniversary Stopover @ The Feilding Railway Station, 19 January, **Classic Bikes** 1 & 2 February, **The Manawātū Vintage Ag Expo** on 22-23 February 2025 at Manfeild Park, **CD Field Days** 13 – 15 March, **Kimbolton Sculpture** – 5 April, **D1NZ** – 11 & 12 April, **The Feilding Aerodrome Open Day** 26 April, **Feilding Fury – Live Pro Wrestling** – 9 May, hosted for the first time in Feilding, **Arena paintball Tournament** – 31st May – 1 June, **Feilding Craft Market** – 6 & 7 June new owners running the event for the first time and **Matariki Concert: Kiwi Grooves**, Sat 21 June.

By championing events like these, FDP continues to strengthen Feilding's vibrancy.

FEEL GOOD STORIES:

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Classic Bikes at Manfeild, 1 – 2 February:

"That is just outstanding, thank you for your support."

Vintage Ag Expo on 22–23 February 2025 at Manfeild Park:

"Feilding & District Promotion supported the event with signage, flyers, radio, social media, and the Feilding Herald calendar. Goodie bags with brochures and Feilding Maps encouraged regional engagement. See attached thank you letter."

The Feilding Aerodrome Open Day, 26 April:

"Feilding Promotion played a key role in raising awareness and boosting attendance by promoting the event through social media, and local media channels. Stan Hyde, President of the Feilding Flying Club, expressed his appreciation for Feilding Promotion's support in marketing the event. He confirmed the updated flyer was provided and acknowledged the effective sharing of the event via Facebook, event listings, and Palmerston North networks, noting the valuable contribution to the event's success."

Live Pro Wrestling, Feilding Civic Centre, 9 May:

"Thank so much for your support, we are really happy and the event went super well. Now that we have our foot in the door I am sure we will be back."

COLLABORATED PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT

This year we collaborated with CEDA and provided printed flyers and an online portal to promote the region at the following events:

1,000
HANDED OUT TO VISITORS

Classic Bikes

1,000
HANDED OUT TO VISITORS

Manawatu Ag Expo

10,000
PRINTED & HANDED OUT TO VISITORS

CD Field Days



FDP MARKETING & PROMOTIONS

Across our media and marketing platforms, we continue to champion local events, attractions, and businesses—driving strong engagement via Facebook and our website, www.feilding.co.nz. Our social media strategy features themed weekly content including Mahi Monday (business spotlight), Waka Wednesday (events and community highlights), and Takahanga Friday (weekend events). We also introduced new engaging video content showcasing local businesses and attractions which resonated well and delivered great results.

43,381
VIEWS

33,896
REACH (ORGANIC)

Feilding Saleyards 145th Birthday Video

16,888
VIEWS

12,604
REACH (ORGANIC)

Matariki Day Live Video

18,028
VIEWS

5,528
REACH (ORGANIC)

Matariki Day Live Video

Mahi Monday - Business Promotion via Socials

18,783
VIEWS

10,904
REACH (ORGANIC)

Mahi Monday Caci Clinic

22,015
VIEWS

10,619
REACH (ORGANIC)

Mahi Monday Stuart Atkins

13,854
VIEWS

13,658
REACH (ORGANIC)

Mahi Monday Congrats Streetwise Coffee

Social Media Statistics

Followers: **6,980** **8,376** **+20%**
JUNE 2024 JUNE 2025

Views: **120,765** **387,492** **+220%**
JUNE 2024 JUNE 2025

From 24 January to 1st August 2025 FDP has seen a 13.49% growth in followers. That's from 7492 to 8503 followers. 2025 Facebook states: Growth rates usually range from 0.5% to 3%. A good follower growth rate is 6-8%.

Website Statistics

We continue to see positive results on our website with YOY growth for the month of June. Being consistent with our tactics has aided measurable improvements.

**Website
Visits:**

9,905
JUNE 2024

23,687
JUNE 2025

+139%

FDP CREATED & MANAGED EVENTS

FDP created, collaborated and managed **15 events** during the period January – June 2025 including Classic Bikes in the Square, Kids n Country, Have a Go, CD Field Days, Manawatu Easter Hunt, Manawatu Easter Funday, D1NZ in the Square, Easter School Holidays Farmers Market, ANZAC School Holidays Farmers Market, Eat Street x 4, Next Wave Music in the Square, Matariki Farmers Market. Plus every week we manage the Feilding Farmers Market and Sale Yard Tours.

15

EVENTS

**COLLABORATED &
MANAGED**

Classic Bikes in the Square – 30 January

A collaboration with Classic Bikes for a special viewing for our community in the town square between 4pm – 6pm including the world-famous Britton. A chance to win spot prizes of weekend passes!

Kids n Country – 1 March

A collaboration with Rural Games Trust.

This is the third year FDP has run the Kids 'n Country event alongside Rural Games Trust. It is run as a pre-event warmup to the Rural Games event that takes place in Palmerston North. The event is aimed at the under 12's and encourages young people to have a go and celebrate our rural heritage. All activities are free including a sausage sizzle. This year it attracted approx. 1,000 people.



Have A Go, 2 March 10.00am – 1.00pm

A collaboration with Sport Manawatu, Manfeild and FDP – new event for 2025.

This event aims to give our community the opportunity to try a range of sports and activities for free at local clubs, encouraging participation and boosting club memberships.

There were 20 different clubs represented providing sports and activities and approx 1,000 people attended the day.

The only challenge was creating awareness of the event. Being a first, a hugely busy weekend in the region already. However overall the collaboration was a success, and we are keen to grow on what has begun. The event date for next year has already been confirmed for Sunday 22 February.

Feel-Good Stories:

- *Levi 7- Loved being able to have a go at everything and getting out of his comfort zone. Hudson 8yo- Fave thing was Kung fu and Gymnastics and Paintball and was out of his comfort zone but gave it a go.*
- *Great day out cool to have a little go at a lot of sport, gymnastics was definitely a hit.*
- *It is a great initiative to be more informed about activities available in our community. It was a fun and friendly environment for families. Will come back next year if it runs and recommend to others.*

CD Field Days - 13 – 15 March

A collaboration with CEDA to promote our region.

FDP work with the Feilding CBD to secure special 'deals' for Field Days visitors, with 29 local businesses taking part. A total of 10,000 brochures were printed, highlighting these offers alongside other regional attractions.

FDP and CEDA partnered to host a shared stand at the Field Days entrance, welcoming visitors and showcasing the diverse experiences our region has to offer. While local businesses reported limited traffic increases from event-exclusive 'deals', the presence proved valuable for broader regional promotion. Both FDP and CEDA agree that maintaining a presence at Field Days is important for visibility, however identify Field Days attendees primarily focus during their visit is very focussed on the event itself. Given that most visitors are within a two-hour drive, there remains strong potential to inspire return trips by highlighting what's available beyond the event itself.





Manawatu Easter Hunt & Funday (April School Holidays Activity)

Easter Hunt – 12 – 26 April

A feel-good initiative designed to bring families together, encourage exploration of our town and district, and an activity for the school holiday period and support local businesses.

- Entries: 213 compared to 156 previous year.
- Prizes: Total value of \$4,239 donated by local businesses.
- Participating businesses: 28 displayed promotional posters compared to 26 the previous year.
- District Communities involved: 16

Easter Fun Day – 26 April

This vibrant community event offered free entry and activities for all, creating an inclusive space for families during the April school holidays. Designed to encourage children to stay active and engaged, the event drew over 1,000 attendees between 10am and 1pm. Fourteen local clubs and businesses contributed a diverse mix of cultural, art, music, and sporting experiences—including Feilding Art Society, Ngati Kauwhata, Girl Guides/Brownies, Next Wave Music, Feilding Gymnastics, Skateboard Club, Kelly Sports, Westwind Equestrian, Kung Fu School-Feilding, and River City Pro Wrestling. On-the-ground support came from 15 dedicated volunteers, including local teens, and catering was generously provided by the RRT team at a significantly reduced rate. Proceeds from the day supported FDP's chosen charity, Cactus, with \$1,350.00 donated to the group.

Feel-Good Stories:

- Rapid Relief Team NZ- FB Post 14 May. RRT had a fantastic time at the Whānau Day event in Feilding! It was a day full of fun, connection, and community spirit. We fired up the grill with our signature burgers and sausage sandwiches – selling the meals to raise over \$1,350 for the Feilding Cactus program. CACTUS empowers youth aged 14-17 by building confidence and self-esteem through tough physical and mental challenges. We're privileged to back such an incredible cause! #rrtcares #youth

D1NZ in the Square, 10th April

Collaborated with D1NZ to bring the monster truck and approx 20 cars into the town square for our community to 'see the cars and meet the drivers'.

Easter & ANZAC Day extended Farmers Markets –

See details below under FM

Eat Street – February – May

A new event, introduced in September 2024 to add vibrancy to the town centre on quieter Sundays. This new initiative connects the community through food and entertainment, drives activity into the town square which can lead to long term economic development, and supports local satellite businesses. A survey conducted in April/May presented that visitors came from far and wide 53% Feilding, 26 % Palmerston North and 21% other including Rangitikei, Wanganui, Wellington, and Taranaki. 83 % said they thoroughly enjoyed the event with 15% enjoying the event.

We also asked visitors whether they would return to Feilding to visit local cafés, retailers, and attractions in the future and 93% said yes. This result strongly indicates that the event delivers long-term economic benefits for our town.

- February: 41 stalls, approx 2,000 visitors
- March: 33 stalls, approx 1,500 visitors
- April: 40 stalls, approx 2,000 visitors
- May: 42 stalls approx 2,000 visitors
- Future Plans: Scheduled to run monthly on second Sunday of month during warmer months (October – May excluding Dec & January).

Feel – Good Stories:

- *Craft Vendor - Just wanted to say thanks for a great day yesterday! I made some great sales & got some really good feedback from everyone that visited my stall. I'm definitely looking forward to coming back next month.*
- *Visitor - we were visiting from Auckland for DINZ, what a great event. We loved it.*
- *Visitor - Love the community feel of these events*
- *Visitor - This should be done more often, it was so nice to get away from everyday life and enjoy sitting in the sunshine soaking up the atmosphere and people watch*

Challenges:

Securing buy-in from our local bricks-and-mortar businesses and motivating their participation especially as the event brings a surge in foot traffic on a day that's usually quiet for our town.



Next Wave Music in the Square - 25th May

A collaboration with 'Next Wave Music' during May Music Month. On Sunday, 25th May from 10am to 1pm, local youth talent took the spotlight and offered free live entertainment, while FDP added to the atmosphere with Giant Games for all to enjoy. Visitors were encouraged to support local cafés by grabbing a bite or a drink and settling in for a fun, free event that celebrated music, connection, and community spirit.

Matariki Farmers Market, 20 June

See details below under FM

Feilding Farmers Market - Every Friday

The Feilding Farmers Market is a cornerstone of Feilding & District Promotions' work, fostering vital connections within our community. It plays a key role in bridging the rural-urban divide and strengthening the grower-consumer relationship—elements that are essential to the uniqueness of our region. The market reflects and reinforces the agricultural heritage that makes our community distinctive.

It continues to maintain a steady flow of visitors and stallholders, on average there are 26 stall holders and approx 1,200 visitors each week. There are ongoing enquiries from businesses, both those that meet the market criteria and those that do not. The introduction of Eat Street has successfully provided a dedicated platform for these businesses.

In addition to welcoming new and returning stallholders each season, FDP continues to add vibrancy to the market through larger events such as Easter, ANZAC Day and Matariki Day. Themed days also play a key role in fostering community engagement—celebrations like our Scottish heritage piping of the haggis ceremony or Anti-Bullying Day, where stallholders dress in pink and decorate their stalls, add a sense of fun and inclusivity. There is strong potential to build on this vibrancy by hosting such events more regularly throughout the year.

Easter Farmers Market – total 36 stalls plus school holiday activities including MDC play trailer, easter craft table hosted by Feilding Arts Society, Facepainting and Easter Bunny giving away easter eggs.

ANZAC Farmers Market – total 40 stalls plus school holiday activities including a bouncy castle funded by Rotary.

Matariki Farmers Market – total of 42 stalls. This event was brought together in collaboration with Ngati Kauwhata who provided many activities and live entertainment including Kapa Haka which added cultural depth and energy to the event. There is a desire from both Ngati Kauwhata and FDP to expand the celebration next year.

Challenges:

The future growth of the Feilding Farmers Market remains a topic of discussion –what does growth look like, and how can it be achieved? Under its current framework, the Feilding Farmers Market maintains a commitment to authenticity, allowing for a 30% tolerance rate for non-authentic products. While it's essential to uphold this standard, we're exploring new strategies to stimulate growth. Early ideas include refining our storytelling, hosting vibrant activities such as cooking demonstrations, and starting the market earlier to accommodate working visitors.

Following the resignation of our Farmers Market Manager in June due to personal reasons, we are actively recruiting a new leader. Their role will be pivotal to the market's continued success, and while we have not yet filled the position, securing the right person remains a top priority.

Saleyard Tours - Every Friday

Our Sale Yard tours remain one of Feilding's standout attractions, offering a unique experience found nowhere else. This distinctive feature sets Feilding apart from neighbouring towns and continues to draw interest from international visitors, students, Massey University groups, and Probus clubs, among others. From January to June 2025, the tours welcomed 162 visitors.

Challenges:

One key challenge ahead is ensuring the succession of our incredible team of enthusiastic and knowledgeable tour guides, whose expertise and passion make these tours truly special.



MANAWATŪ DISTRICT

BUSINESS NETWORKS

Summary of Communication Messages to the Business Network

During this period, FDP maintained consistent communication with the business community through direct correspondence and event promotions. Regular Biz@5, workshop invitations, and targeted messaging ensured businesses remained informed and engaged. There are 868 contacts in our database including both businesses, general and community groups. Of this 438 are businesses.

Business Networking Functions & Opportunities

FDP successfully organized at least one networking event per month, sometimes two. Events ranged from Biz@5 catch-ups to specialized workshops.

- January: no business events, reflecting the quieter period when many are away on holiday.
- February: Biz@ 5 at Kinetic (35 attendees)
- March: Biz@5 FDP new venue launch (130 attendees including 25 children from Hato Paora)
- April: Biz@5 at Manchester House (36 attendees).
- April: FREE Social Media Workshop for local businesses hosted by Sarah Manthel from Thrive Media (33 Attendees)
- May: Biz@5 Impact Awards Launch at Pitlane Manfeild (56 attendees).
- June: Biz@5 FBI hosted at Flooring Extra (47 attendees).

Additionally, FDP hosted Lunch n Learn sessions in partnership with the Manawatu Chamber, as well as CEDA Business Workshops, supporting business education and development.

New Businesses / Owners

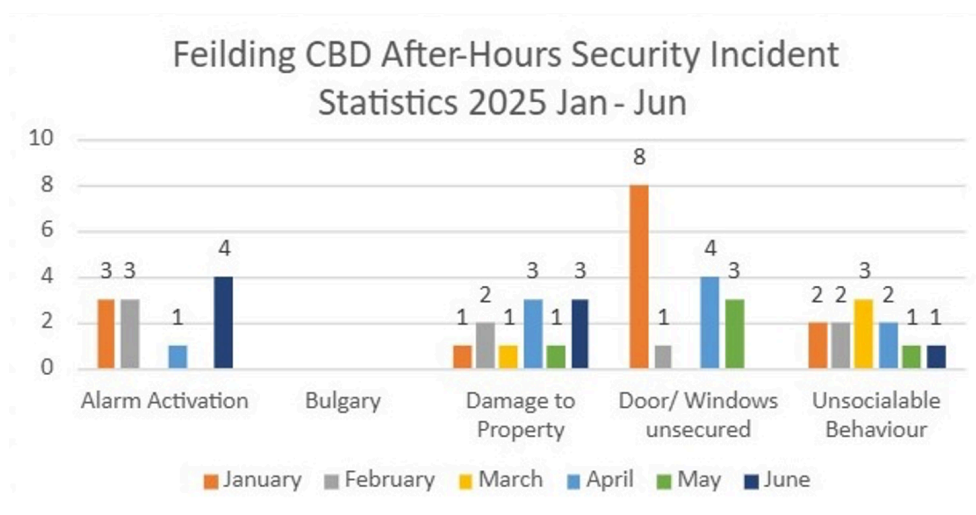
Between January and June 2025, FDP proudly welcomed eleven new businesses or business owners to the Feilding community. Every newcomer receives an introduction through a visit or phone call, a listing in our monthly Ontrack newsletter, and a welcome pack filled with helpful resources. They are also encouraged to join our database to stay informed about local events, opportunities, and community updates.

Advocacy

FDP played a critical role in bringing local businesses together so they could provide direct feedback to the Ministerial Advisory Group – Retail Crime (MAC).

Council-Operated CBD Security Contract

First Security's Foot Patrol operates nightly from approximately 8:00pm to 2:00am, seven days a week, supporting our commitment to a safe and welcoming CBD. This initiative is funded primarily by CBD ratepayers (80%), with the remaining (20%) covered by general rates. FDP oversees the patrols, ensuring timely reporting and issue tracking. Each morning, FDP receives an electronic report from the patrol guards detailing the areas covered and any incidents observed (see graph below). To enhance transparency and engagement, FDP now shares monthly summaries via the Ontrack Newsletter and invites feedback from local businesses—though none has been received to date.



CCTV Project

Stage 1 – Final Development and Planning Stage;

We've made solid progress on finalising the scope and development of the work to be delivered in Stage 1, which focuses on the installation of fixed ANPR cameras. We are in the final stages of negotiation with our preferred contractor and are currently working with MDC and relevant landowners to secure the necessary approvals and consents for the proposed hardware locations.

Once approvals are in place, the installation process will begin. At the same time, all relevant legislative and governance documentation will be published on the feilding.co.nz website.



Council

Meeting of 21 August 2025

Business Unit: Community
Date Created: 11 June 2025

Sport Manawatū – Annual Report to 30 June 2025

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

To present for acknowledgement the Sport Manawatū Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2025 as required under the contract between Sport Manawatū and Manawatū District Council.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

That the Council acknowledge receipt of the Sport Manawatū Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2025 and to note that Sport Manawatū has met its reporting obligations under the current contract.

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 Manawatū District Council entered into a contract with Sport Manawatū Charitable Trust for the provision of “Manawatū District Sport Services”. The term of the contract was from 1 July 2016 until 30 June 2021 with the total value of the contract over that term being \$450,000 excluding GST. The contract was extended for a further three-year period until 30 June 2025.
- 1.2 Council have further extended the contract for a year from 1 July 2025 - 30 June 2026.
- 1.3 Under the terms of the contract, Sport Manawatū is required to provide six-monthly and annual reports within six weeks of the end of each reporting period. The 2024/25 Annual Report was received by Council on 25 July 2025.

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 The contract between Sport Manawatū and Manawatū District Council contributes to all of Council’s priorities:
- 2.2 A place to belong and grow: The contract with Sport Manawatū enables Council to provide a coordinated, community-focused approach to increasing participation in sport and active recreation. It supports Council’s objective of fostering social wellbeing and inclusion by ensuring people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities have opportunities to connect, engage, and grow through local events and programmes.
- 2.3 A future planned together: This partnership ensures Council has access to current and locally relevant data, insights, and community feedback to inform decisions about sport and recreation delivery. The contract provides a mechanism for gathering evidence on emerging needs, participation barriers, and demographic trends — helping Council shape future investment in programmes, partnerships, and infrastructure with confidence.
- 2.4 An environment to be proud of: Through the contract, Council is able to advance its environmental wellbeing goals by supporting initiatives that promote active transport and sustainable recreation. This includes community-level programmes that encourage walking, cycling, and engagement with natural spaces — reducing reliance on cars and promoting healthier lifestyles in ways that align with the use of public assets.
- 2.5 Infrastructure fit for the future: The contract ensures Council has a delivery partner actively involved in regional facility planning and network alignment. This enables strategic coordination on future capital projects and supports Council to meet growth-related demand and equity of access. The partnership strengthens Council’s ability to deliver fit-for-purpose, community-informed spaces for sport and recreation.
- 2.6 Value for money and excellence in local government: This contracted service delivers measurable outcomes aligned with Council priorities, while also leveraging significant external funding to amplify impact. It provides a cost-effective model for achieving high-quality delivery in a specialised area, with transparent reporting and continuous improvement processes that support Council’s governance, accountability, and value-for-money principles.

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

- 3.1 In accordance with the requirements of the contract, Sport Manawatū has provided its Annual Report for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025. The below outlines how Sport Manawatū has delivered against the agreed outcomes over the reporting period. Full details can be found in their attached report.

3.2 *Outcome 1: The Manawatū district develops a strong foundation for community wellbeing through play, active recreation, and sport.*

Sport Manawatū has delivered a wide range of programmes that support the physical and social wellbeing of individuals and whānau across the district. Their work included targeted initiatives for young people, women, and priority communities, such as student leadership development, volunteer coaching workshops, and inclusive activities for ORS-funded learners.

Through the Green Prescription and Active Families programmes, over 279 residents accessed personalised support for improving health and confidence through physical activity. In addition, more than \$130,000 of Tū Manawa funding was distributed locally to support community-led programmes that reduce barriers to participation.

3.3 *Outcome 2: People have the skills to safely and confidently ride a bike on our roads, shared paths, and cycleways.*

- 3.4 Council's goal of increasing safe and confident use of active transport has been well supported through Sport Manawatū's Bike Ready programme. This year, 152 students participated in cycle safety training at Manchester Street School, including both off-road and on-road components. Notably, eight previously non-riding students learned to ride confidently by the end of the course, demonstrating the value of personalised, inclusive instruction. The involvement of local Police in the programme reinforced key safety messages and helped strengthen community trust.

3.5 *Outcome 3: Sport and Recreation facilities (Places and Spaces) across the District meet community requirements.*

- 3.6 Sport Manawatū has contributed to the ongoing planning and development of sport and recreation infrastructure through active support of the He Rā Ki Tua Regional Facility Plan, which was formally endorsed by Council in 2025. Their involvement in cross-council implementation planning and their liaison role with partners such as Manfeild have added value to regional facility discussions. Additionally, Sport Manawatū played a key role in activating new spaces, including supporting the opening of the MCHL outdoor basketball court and coordinating community use of the facility.

3.7 *Outcome 4: Sports and community sport events create social and participation opportunities as well as economic benefits and contribute to hauora. Minimum of ten events per year.*

- 3.8 Sixteen events were delivered or supported during the year, exceeding the contracted target of ten. These events ranged from district-wide initiatives like *Have a Go Day* (1,000 attendees) and *Tamariki Toa* (950 students), to neighbourhood-based activities such as Street Parties and Splash n Dash. Events were inclusive, low-cost, and designed to encourage participation from all ages and abilities. Feedback from both attendees and partner clubs was overwhelmingly positive, with evidence of increased interest in local sport and recreation opportunities following the events.

- 3.9 Representatives from Sport Manawatū will be in attendance at the Council meeting to speak to their annual report.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

- 4.1 There are no risks associated with the recommendation to receive this report. Sport Manawatū has fulfilled its reporting obligations under the contract, and no decision is being sought that would alter service delivery or create new risk.

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 There are no community engagement requirements associated with this report. The purpose is to receive Sport Manawatū's 12-month report, which reflects delivery of services already agreed through the existing contract.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 The report summarises delivery of outcomes under an existing service contract. There are no new operational impacts for Council.

7 Financial Implications Ngā Pānga Ahumoni

- 7.1 The value of the contract for the 2024/25 financial year is \$103,500 excluding GST. This is provided for within existing operational budgets. No additional funding is required in relation to this report.
- 7.2 Budget has been allocated during Council's Long Term Plan 2024-34 to continue a contract with Sport Manawatū.

8 Statutory Requirements Ngā Here ā-Ture

- 8.1 There are no statutory requirements associated with this paper.

9 Next Steps Te Kokenga

- 9.1 No further action is required from Council at this time. Sport Manawatū will continue service delivery under the extended contract through 2025/26. In line with reporting requirements, a six-month report will be provided to Council in early 2026.

10 Attachments Ngā Āpitihanga

- 2024-25 Sport Manawatū MDC 12 month report







Manawatū District Council

12-MONTH PARTNERSHIP REPORT

July 2024 - June 2025



SPORT MANAWATŪ'S EFFORTS DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTE TO MANAWATŪ DISTRICT COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES.

Council Priorities	<p>A place to belong and grow He kāinga e ora pai ai te katoa</p> 	<p>A future planned together He kāinga ka whakamaherea tahitia tōna anamata e te hapori tonu</p> 	<p>An environment to be proud of He kāinga ka rauhītia tōna taiao</p> 	<p>Infrastructure fit for future He kāinga ka tūwhenua tonu ōna pūnahahanga, haere ake nei te wā</p> 	<p>A prosperous, resilient economy He kāinga ka tōnui tōna ōhanga</p> 	<p>Value for money and excellent in local government He kāinga ka eke tōna kāwanatanga ā-rohe ki ngā taumata o te kairangi</p> 
Sport Manawātū's contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community events and activities such as street parties and pop-up play events provide opportunities for people of all ages to try new sports, fostering inclusion and social wellbeing. Workshops such as "Rise & Thrive Coaching Connect" encourage more women to participate in sports, promoting equity and social connection. Connecting with rural communities to understand challenges and opportunities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with schools, community groups, and the Council to plan and deliver programmes that address the needs of diverse populations such as the Bhutanese Tournament. Engaging with local communities to design programmes that are relevant and accessible, ensuring everyone's voices are heard. Providing insights into regional sport and recreation needs, supporting the Council's planning for future sports facilities and programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encouraging residents to engage in environmentally sustainable activities, such as walking, which utilise the district's natural assets. Promoting walking and cycling as modes of transport, reducing reliance on vehicles and contributing to environmental preservation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with the Council to ensure sports and recreation facilities meet the needs of the growing population and diverse user groups (He rā ki tua). Supporting initiatives like the Makino Pathway to create spaces that encourage active lifestyles and serve future generations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing opportunities for local businesses to engage in events and sports initiatives such as the Workplace Challenge. Making Manawātū an attractive place to live by enhancing the community's quality of life through accessible sport and recreation programmes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Delivering high-quality sport and recreation programmes while ensuring value for investment by leveraging funding effectively. Providing clear reporting on programme outcomes and community impact, aligning with the Council's commitment to transparency and excellence. Using community feedback to refine services, ensuring programmes are relevant, effective, and beneficial to the district.

AGREED SERVICE OUTCOMES

Outlined below are our agreed service outcomes for the 2024/2025 year:

1. The Manawatū District develops a strong foundation for community wellbeing through play, active recreation and sport.
2. People have the skills to safely and confidently cycle and walk on our active transport network and system.
3. Sport and recreation facilities (Spaces and Places) across the district meet community requirements.
4. Sports and community sport events create social opportunities and contribute to Hauora.



THE MANAWATŪ DISTRICT DEVELOPS A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY WELLBEING THROUGH PLAY, ACTIVE RECREATION, AND SPORT.

NZCT Manawatu Active Communities Fund

Sport Manawātū was proud to distribute funding on behalf of the New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT) to residents, schools, sports clubs, organisations, iwi, and kura within the Manawātū District.

The aim of the fund is to remove financial barriers to participation in sport, active recreation, or play. Launched in September 2024 with \$100,000 available, the fund was fully allocated within just over seven months.

A total of 115 individuals applied for support of up to \$500 each, ranging in age from 4 to 73 years. The funding helped cover everything from swimming and boxing lessons to gym memberships, bikes, scooters, rhythmic gymnastics classes, and a wide range of sporting fees and uniforms.

We also received 25 larger applications for funding of up to \$5,000. These supported sporting equipment, participation fees, stolen uniform replacements, playground and pool upgrades, swimming lessons, and facility hire costs.

This fund has had a meaningful impact across the district and is a great example of removing barriers so more people can get active in ways that work for them.

The panel was made up of Kirsty Kauri- Ngāti Kauwhata, Luke Shannon- Police, Amiee Flanders- MDC, Denise Mclean - Replay Sports, Michelle Copeman- Sport Manawātū Megan Hennessy- Sport Manawātū

115

Individual applications

25

Larger applications



everyone active.
kia mātātoa tātou.



OUTCOME 1

North Street School Inclusion Training

In June, Sport Manawatū supported a workshop focused on inclusion for students funded through the Ongoing Resource Scheme (ORS). The session was requested by support staff at North Street School, who were looking for practical ways to better include their ORS learners in physical activity.

We brought Max Pringle from the Halberg Foundation to deliver the workshop, which was attended by 20 support staff from four local schools. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive

This workshop, along with previous work at Lytton Street School, has led to the development of a functional fitness programme delivered by Next Level Athletes. The programme will be rolled out to ORS students at both North Street and Lytton Street Schools in Term 3.

“

“It was a great session – there was lots of laughing. Max did a great visual presentation and had everyone actively involved.”

”



everyone active.
kia mātātoa tātou.



Lytton Street School Physical Activity Leadership

In Term 2, Lytton Street School's Te Raukura group (senior leaders) took part in the Physical Activity Leadership (PALs) programme, delivered by the Sport Manawatū Healthy Active Learning team.

Over two half-day workshops, 29 students explored what makes an effective leader or coach. They learned how to design games and activities suitable for different age groups and developed practical communication skills for leading their own sessions.

Student feedback highlighted an increase in confidence, a stronger understanding of the importance of respect, kindness, and responsibility, and the simple joy that comes from being a good sport.

Since completing the programme, the Te Raukura students have been running lunchtime activities every day for the rest of the school.



OUTCOME 1

Parent, Play, Coach Workshop – Supporting Volunteer Coaches

Ahead of the winter sports season, Sport Manawātū hosted a free Parent, Play, Coach workshop to support parents stepping into volunteer coaching roles.

The workshop focused on giving parents practical tools, strategies, and a positive mindset to help them guide their child or team with confidence. Designed for both new and experienced coaches, the session offered fresh ideas and simple, engaging activities that emphasised what really matters at grassroots level: enjoyment, inclusion, and growth.

From keeping kids motivated to navigating the balance between development and performance, the workshop struck a balance between theory and hands-on learning.

Feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive

“

“Being a better coach and an understanding of keeping the children engaged.”

“The development vs performance ladder.”

“All the activities were really engaging and fun. The importance of fun while coaching.”

“The new game I played.”

“Perfect amount of time. Good subjects and activities.”

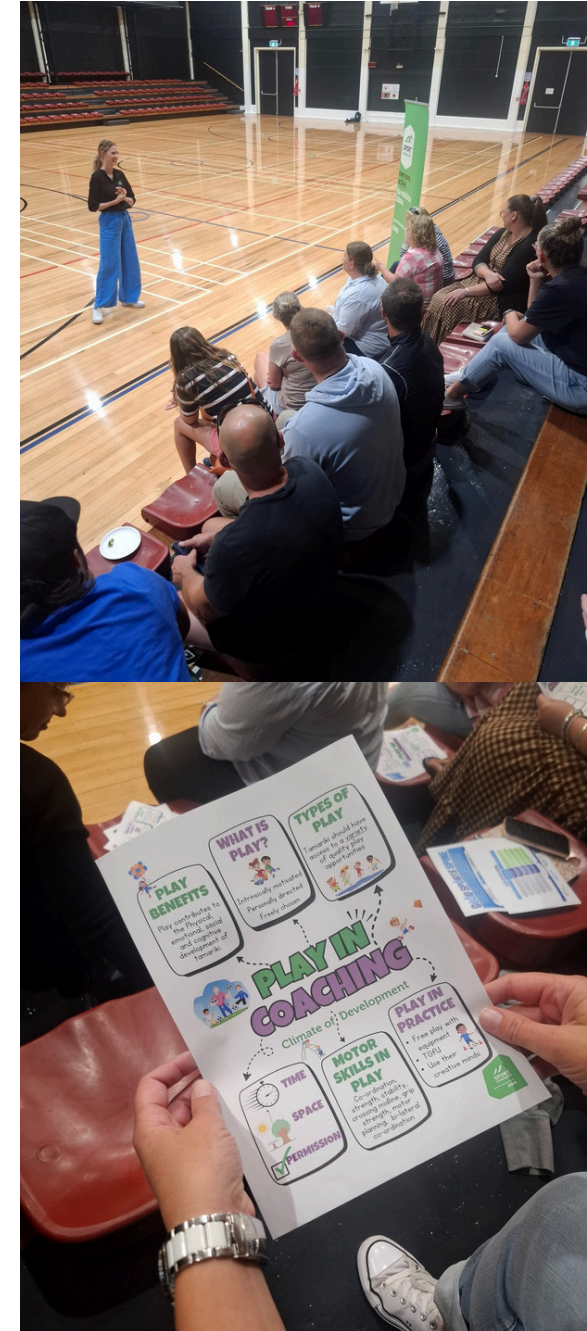
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Flow on Impact: Manchester School Coaching Session

As a direct outcome of our Parent, Play, Coach workshop, Manchester Street School requested a tailored coaching session to support their volunteer coaches. Delivered in alignment with the school’s core value of “We Care”, the session drew on local insights about what tamariki in our rohe want to hear from the sidelines.

Thirteen coaches attended the workshop, which focused on positive sideline behaviour, building confidence, and creating a supportive sporting environment. Feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with coaches valuing the practical tools and connection to local data.

Workshops like this reinforce the importance of parent volunteers in community sport. By supporting them, Sport Manawātū is helping to build more inclusive, caring, and positive sporting experiences for young people across the Manawātū District.



OUTCOME 1

Te Tiriti Workshop – Targeted at the Sport Leaders of our Regional Sports

In response to a request from the regional sports sector, Sport Manawātū developed and delivered a two-part workshop series to help organisations better understand and apply Te Tiriti o Waitangi in their structures and programmes.

Part A (26 February) focused on the history and principles of Te Tiriti, while Part B (17 April) explored practical ways to embed these principles into day-to-day operations, coaching environments, and governance.

The workshops were well attended by representatives from Badminton, Hockey, Volleyball, Rugby League, Lawn Bowls, Netball, and Touch — all of which have strong participation and influence in the Manawātū District.

Feedback was resoundingly positive, with 100% of attendees reporting an improved understanding of Te Tiriti and greater confidence in applying it meaningfully within their sport. This work is a step forward in building a more inclusive and culturally responsive sport system across our rohe.



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Secondary School Student Coach and Officials Development

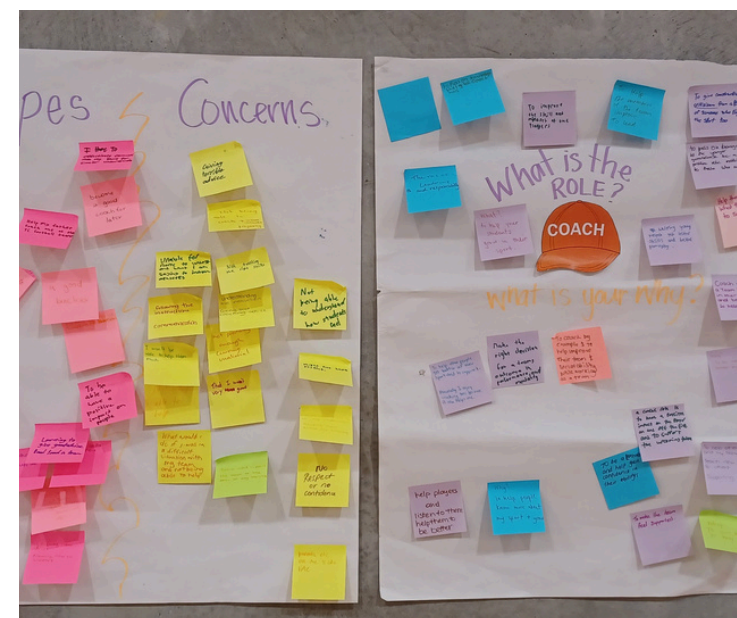
Now in its third year, the Secondary School Student Coach and Officials Development Day continues to grow. Held on 9 April, the 2025 event brought together 78 students from across the region, including 15% of attendees from Feilding High School.

Delivered in partnership with key regional sport organisations, students were guided through the core skills needed to coach and officiate in the morning, followed by sport-specific sessions in the afternoon led by development staff from Volleyball, Netball, Football, Hockey, and Basketball.

Responding to 2024 feedback, this year we introduced an extension module for returning student coaches. Every participant in this stream rated the module as valuable and useful. Overall, 82% of all students found the day beneficial or very beneficial.

To ensure ongoing support, students have been added to dedicated chat groups where development staff can continue to guide and connect with them throughout the season. End-of-season feedback will be gathered to help us further strengthen the programme.

This work helps grow confident young leaders across the Manawātū District, creating a more sustainable and skilled volunteer base for community sport.



OUTCOME 1

Elevating Student Voice – Rangatahi Engagement in the Manawatū

The Regional Sports Director (RSD) role experienced a transition this year, with Annabel Renting stepping into the position in February 2025. Since then, strong relationships have been built with Feilding High School, supporting our ongoing mahi with rangatahi in the district.

In May 2025, Sport Manawatū facilitated the Voice of Rangatahi Survey at Feilding High, a Sport New Zealand initiative that captures student perspectives on physical activity and education. The results from this survey will guide the next phase of student-led engagement, including a co-design project aimed at enhancing physical activity opportunities that reflect the needs and aspirations of local rangatahi.

This work ensures that young people in the Manawatū District have a say in shaping sport and recreation that works for them, building a sense of ownership and increasing the likelihood of lifelong participation.

Listening to Rangatahi – Understanding Participation Through Data

The Sport New Zealand Voice of Rangatahi survey was rolled out across the region this year, with Sport Manawatū supporting 10 secondary schools to take part — including six across Palmerston North and Feilding.

The survey gathers valuable insights directly from students about their engagement with physical activity: what they enjoy, how often they participate, and the barriers that get in the way.

Sport Manawatū is now working alongside schools to interpret both individual and regional data, identifying key trends, gaps, and opportunities to better support rangatahi in staying active.

This work provides a strong evidence base to guide future investment and co-designed initiatives that meet the needs of young people in the Manawatū District.

Wellbeing Through Movement – Fitness & Recreation Pilot at St Dominic's

In collaboration with Saint Dominic's, operated by Pathways, a national leader in community-based mental health and addiction services, we are co-designing a modified Green Prescription programme that will look to meet the wellness goals of the residents and respite care clients.

The initiative will begin with three trial sessions to introduce a range of inclusive activities such as soccer, cricket, resistance band exercises, and chair yoga. These sessions are designed to promote physical wellbeing, social engagement, and routine.

Pending successful feedback, and engagement from both residents and staff, an eight-week programme is scheduled for Term 3 2025, with the long-term goal of embedding regular physical activity into the daily offering at St Dominic's.

A key component of this project is staff training. This will enable St Dominic's team members to confidently deliver and continue these activities beyond our direct involvement, allowing for a sustainable model being created.



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OUTCOME 1

Play with Purpose – Untamed Play Hui Builds Regional Momentum

In March 2025, Sport Manawatū hosted the Untamed Play Hui, bringing together staff from all four territorial authorities to explore how we can better support natural and risky play, and create accessible community activations across our rohe.

Two officers from Manawatū District Council attended, alongside others from across the region. A standout moment was the presentation from James Adamson (MDC) and Mark Searle (St Joseph's School), who shared the success of the Forest School initiative at Almadale Reserve — a shining example of local collaboration delivering real impact for tamariki in the district.

The hui sparked strong engagement and led to the formation of a regional play network focused on collaboration, shared priorities, and practical support. This work ensures that play remains a valued and visible part of community wellbeing in the Manawatū District.

Belonging, Purpose, and Leadership – Women in Sport Development Session

On 27 May 2025, Sport Manawatū hosted a development session for women working and volunteering in sport, led by Feilding's own Dr Ellen Joan Ford. Through her leadership model of **belonging, autonomy, and purpose**, Ellen shared practical insights for creating thriving people and inclusive workspaces.

Her stories and facilitation helped participants explore how to use their voice, build confidence, and support one another. Attendees appreciated the safe, empowering environment and were especially inspired by Ellen's #WorkSchoolHours philosophy offering a refreshing lens on how work can fit around life, not the other way around.

The session was described as both inspiring and personally impactful. Follow-up feedback has confirmed a strong desire for more opportunities to connect and grow as wāhine in the sector.

Dr Ford also led sessions with Sport Manawatū's female staff, the full team, and the leadership group reinforcing her model across all levels of our organisation. We're looking forward to welcoming her back later this year to keep building on this momentum within our district and beyond.



It's My Move

Led by Sport New Zealand, the **It's My Move** campaign encourages kōhine (young women) to explore physical activity in ways that feel right for them. Research shows kōhine participate less and drop out earlier than their male peers, often due to confidence, social pressures, or lack of relatable role models.

In early 2025, Sport Manawatū brought the campaign to life locally by spotlighting kōhine from across our region who embody confidence, self-motivation, and a passion for movement. These young women shared their personal stories, encouraging others to find joy in physical activity and prioritise their hauora (wellbeing).

In April, Feilding High School student Zahara Slatter was profiled as part of the campaign. A dedicated artistic gymnast, Zahara's story deeply resonated with viewers — her video content attracted the highest engagement across all case studies. She spoke about growing up in the gym, the importance of friendships and mentorship, and how gymnastics continues to uplift her overall wellbeing.

Campaigns like this help kōhine in the Manawatū District see themselves in sport and movement — on their own terms.



Zahara's video's can be viewed [here](#).

Strengthening Connections – Supporting Sport and Recreation at Hato Paora

Sport Manawatū kaimahi has been working closely with Hato Paora College to explore how we can better support the school's unique needs in the sport and recreation space.

With a smaller roll than many other secondary schools in the region, Hato Paora is well resourced in key sports like rugby and basketball, but faces challenges in fielding teams for other codes due to limited numbers. School leadership also identified a group of students who currently feel disconnected from existing sport offerings.

Sport Manawatū is planning a co-design session with students in late July to hear directly from them, understanding what they want to be part of, and what barriers stand in the way. Insights gathered will help shape new or adapted activities, with a goal to pilot these during a teacher-only day in August.

This work aims to create inclusive, student-led physical activity opportunities, ensuring more rangatahi at Hato Paora feel seen, supported, and motivated to be active in ways that suit them.

Facebook update



The Sport Manawatū Facebook page continues to grow as a valuable communication channel for connecting with our community.

Over the past 12 months, our top-performing content included:

- **Play, Parent, Coach Workshop** - 21,871 views
- **Volunteer Week** - 7,357 views
- **Replay NZ Donation Station** (reused sports gear) - 5,900 views

In the past six months alone, the page has had **109,000 views**, reached **25.8k people**, and generated **1.8k content interactions**.

Our audience is primarily local, with **58.9% based in the Manawatū** and **21.1% in Palmerston North**, confirming we're continuing to reach the communities we serve.

The page shows steady growth and engagement, helping us promote local initiatives, support community groups, and celebrate local achievements.

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa Funding Manawatū District

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa provides funding for programmes or projects delivering play, active recreation, and sport experiences for tamariki and rangatahi. It is particularly focused on groups where barriers cause them to be less active.

The purpose of the Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa Fund is to provide quality experiences that are accessible, create a lifelong love of being active and meet the needs of tamariki and Rangatahi.

The Fund helps to cover programme or service delivery costs including:

- Programme or project delivery e.g., venue or equipment hire, transport.
- Equipment as part of the programme or service.
- Officials, where these are required for the delivery.
- Programme delivery, supporting staff wages applicable to the project e.g., activity leader, coordinator.

The following list includes organisations and their projects that received Tū Manawa Funding between January 1 and June 30, 2025.

Organisation	Amount	Used for
Kahui Ako o Kawakawa	\$4,592	Ki o Rahi Feilding Schools' Competition
North Street School	\$7,175	Dance and Step with Sio
St. Joseph's Feilding	\$2,337	Forest School
Hato Paora College	\$10,000	Hato Paora Kia Pakari
Lytton St. School	\$5,084	Next level Athletes Functional Fitness
Te Manawa Family Services	\$9,784	Kids Connect
Parafed Manawatu	\$22,973	The Next Step: Beyond Barriers
Best Care Whakapai Hauora	\$6,996	Primary & Intermediate School Ki o Rahi
Hockey Manawatu	\$7,153	Hockey Without Limits
Big Brothers Big Sisters Manawatu	\$10,000	BBBSM Play it Forward
Manawatu Badminton Association	\$46,230	Badminton for Life
Total	\$132,324	



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PEOPLE HAVE THE SKILLS TO SAFELY AND CONFIDENTLY RIDE A BIKE ON OUR ROADS, SHARED PATHS, AND CYCLEWAYS.

Cycle Skills

The Sport Manawātū Bike Ready programme helps tamariki gain confidence, skills, and safety awareness when riding their bikes encouraging active transport and a lifelong enjoyment of cycling.

This year, we partnered with Manchester Street School to deliver both Grade 1 and Grade 2 sessions. Grade 1 supports Year 4 and 5 students on school grounds through fun, skill-based activities, while Grade 2 takes Year 6 students onto the road to learn essential road rules and safe cycling behaviours.

A highlight of this year's programme was the success with learner riders. Of the nine students who began unable to ride, eight were confidently cycling by the end of Grade 1 thanks to dedicated 1:1 support from our instructors.

The programme also welcomed a visit from the local community police officer, who joined a Year 6 road session. Their involvement reinforced the importance of safe riding and showed students that cycling is not only fun, but valued by the wider community.



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In total, 152 students took part:

40

Year 6 students completed Grade 2

59

Year 5 students completed Grade 1

44

Year 4 students completed Grade 1

8 out of 9 learner riders are now able to ride.

Programmes like Bike Ready support MDC's wider goals around wellbeing, active transport, and community connection helping tamariki develop confidence and independence on their bikes.



SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES (PLACES AND SPACES) ACROSS THE DISTRICT MEET COMMUNITY REQUIREMENTS.

He Rā Ki Tua – Regional Facility Planning in Action

The *He Rā Ki Tua* Regional Sport Facility Plan has now been formally endorsed by Manawātū District Council, alongside the seven other councils within the Horizons region. This marks a significant step forward in how we collectively plan, advocate for, and deliver quality spaces and places for our communities.

In partnership with Sport Whanganui, an implementation plan has been developed, and a cross-council working party established with MDC represented by Caroline Jamison and James Adamson. An initial in-person hui and a Horizons South online meeting have already taken place, demonstrating strong collaboration and shared commitment to regional alignment.

Sport Manawātū's General Manager of Environments has been working closely with the CEO of Manfeild, providing information relating to indoor and outdoor sport directions and insights. This relationship will guild the future development of the Manfeild facility. The He Ra Ki Tua plan is supporting these discussions.



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SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO HAUORA.

Outdoor Basketball Court Opening

On 24 January 2025, Sport Manawatū proudly supported the Manawatū Community Hub Library (MCHL) in officially opening their new outdoor basketball court, a space designed to offer free, accessible sport and recreation opportunities for the local community.

Made possible through funding from NZCT, the launch event brought together around 200 people for an afternoon of basketball, music, play, and free kai. The Manawatū Jets, local Police, Te Manawa Family Services, and the MDC Play Trailer were all on site, helping to activate the space and create a safe, inclusive environment for all.

Sport Manawatū wanted to ensure that this space had sufficient activation from community organisations to promote a safe and inclusive space for all to enjoy. Through promoting this space, we hope to see the community continue to use the court and get value from it.

It was great to see a number of elected members attending the event and connect with the community.

“

“We have needed this for ages. My grandsons love basketball, and this feels like a great environment”

“This is such a cool thing for our community. Hopefully there will be lots of kids around after school”

”



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200

participants



SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO HAUORA.

Splash n Dash

On February 23, 2025, Sport Manawatū supported the Makino Aquatic Centre in delivering its first Splash n Dash event. Funded through the Sport Manawatū NZCT Active Communities Fund, the event targeted tamariki aged 5–12, providing a fun, non-competitive run-and-swim experience for all abilities.

A major highlight for the 60 participants was the distribution of spot prizes, ensuring every child left with something, including swimming lesson vouchers for those that the lifeguards noted needing extra support.

Feedback was mostly positive, with strong interest in making this an annual event.

Despite some behind-the-scenes challenges, particularly around roles, responsibilities, and communication, the event was a success. There are areas for improvement, but the positive response highlights the value of providing inclusive, non-competitive opportunities for tamariki in the community.



Have a Go Day

On 2 March 2025, Sport Manawatū partnered with Manfeild and Feilding District Promotions to deliver the first-ever Have a Go Day, a free, family-friendly event designed to connect locals with clubs and activities in a fun, inclusive setting.

Seventeen clubs took part, offering everything from gymnastics and kung fu to paintball and blokarting. Around 1,000 people attended, despite competing events across the region.

Clubs valued the opportunity to engage directly with the community. Every club that responded to the post-event survey said they would return, and many reported new membership interest — with the Blokart Club attracting over 100 people to their follow-up session.

This event will return in 2025, with planning already underway. Have a Go Day is a great example of how low-barrier initiatives can build stronger community connections and grow participation across the Manawatū District.



SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO HAUORA.

Tamariki Toa

On February 28, 2025 around 950 students from across the Manawātū participated in Tamariki Toa. In just its second year, the event has nearly doubled in numbers, reflecting its growing popularity.

Tamariki Toa challenges primary and intermediate-aged tamariki to complete a fun yet testing course, promoting resilience, teamwork, and physical activity.

Sport Manawātū is proud to support this inclusive event, which caters to all ages and abilities. Keeping costs low ensures accessibility for all. At the finish line, participants enjoyed a free sausage sizzle, generously provided by Team Hale from Property Brokers.

With numbers increasing, Tamariki Toa continues to inspire tamariki to get active and challenge themselves.

Family Fun Day

Family Fun Day is an annual highlight for the community. The event is well organised by the Community Hub staff, and Sport Manawātū enjoys being a part of this free fun day.

This year, with the change in venue, we were able to take the opportunity to promote the exercise equipment located next to the squash club at Victoria Park. We created a “ninja warrior” course, with staff positioned around the course to provide support as needed.

We saw participants of all ages take part, with around 150 people going through the course over the three-hour event.

Community feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and we hope to see increased use of this fantastic equipment. However, many attendees mentioned they were unsure how to use the different stations. Based on this feedback, we are now working alongside the MDC parks team and the communications team to support and encourage better utilisation of the equipment.



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SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO HAUORA.

Street Parties

Blue Light Police wrapped up the summer street parties with the final event held in March on Monmouth Street. These street parties continue to be highly valued by the community, providing a platform for organisations to connect with people and engage in valuable conversations.

A key insight from a prior street party was the strong interest among youth in participating in dance. However, financial barriers prevented many from participating. This led to discussions with North Street School, which had previously hosted a popular Pacifica dance instructor and mentor, Sio Vaelua.

As a result of these conversations, North Street School successfully secured Tū Manawa funding to bring back Sio and continue offering these dance sessions, ensuring that tamariki can participate without financial constraints.

Tough Kid Challenge 2025 – A Day of Mud, Grit, and Fun!

The annual Tough Kid Challenge continues to be a highlight for tamariki, especially for our rural schools, with over 750 participants from 21 schools taking on the 3km course packed with fun obstacles.

As the event kicked off, the energy and nerves were high, but so was the excitement! This event isn't about winning; it's about participation, perseverance, and just having a go.

Leading by example, Manawatū Community Lead Megan Hennessy and General Manager Carl Johnstone couldn't resist the challenge and took on the course themselves—proving that it's not just the kids who get to have all the fun!

A huge shoutout to Mt Biggs School for once again delivering a fantastic day.

Street Parties



Family Fun Day



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SPORTS AND COMMUNITY SPORT EVENTS CREATE SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO HAUORA.

Manawatu Inter Secondary Schools (MISS) Cross Country 2025

For the second year running the MISS Cross Country event was held at Timona Park. The event was led by Nga Tawa Diocesan School with support from Sport Manawātū and the Feilding Moa Harriers Club. The Central Region National Development Manager for Athletics NZ, Kirsten Kilmister also attended.

Over 200 students were entered across the race categories (year 9, under 16, under 20, and athletes with disabilities), with the students coming from 15 schools throughout the Manawātū, Palmerston North, Tararua and Horowhenua regions.

Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive with 91% of attendees saying they either 'loved' or 'liked' the event and post event feedback from schools also indicated a high level of satisfaction.



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Community Hauora Day

On 8 May, 2025 Sport Manawātū joined other health organisations at the Community Hauora Day held at the Te Āhuru Mōwai – Manawātū Community Hub Library, in Feilding. The event provided a valuable opportunity to promote active lifestyles, connect with the community, and share practical resources.

We showcased the Green Prescription Programme, distributed healthy recipe books and playbooks, and engaged in meaningful conversations about incorporating movement into daily routines.

Special thanks to Kirsty Kauri (Ngati Kauwhata - KAITIAKI TOIORA MĀORI), for driving the initiative and showing her support for community health initiatives.

This event was a great opportunity to further our commitment to improving well-being across the Manawātū District and enhance relationships with local iwi.

MISS Cross Country



Community Hauora Day



SECTOR UPDATES: LEADERSHIP AND STRATEGY

Sport and Recreation awards

Sport Manawatū in partnership with Te Pae Oranga o Ruahine o Taranua were the successful winners of the Jim Maniapoto Memorial Taonga- Excellence in impacting Māori participation as Māori Award at the recent New Zealand Sport and Recreation award 2025.

Our partnership with Te Pae Oranga o Ruahine o Taranua through the He Oranga Poutama Māori Activation fund is all about strengthening wellbeing through Kaupapa Māori physical activity and connection.



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Partnerships In Action event

This event was held to showcase the impact and achievements of Sport Manawatū and partners over the past 12 months. Hosted in the JA Russel lounge at Arena in Palmerston North, it highlighted how funding has been effectively used to support participation, inclusion, and wellbeing through play, active recreation, and sport across the region.

We demonstrated our reach into diverse communities via trusted partnerships and emphasised our role in empowering local organisations, advocating for sector growth, and fostering lifelong engagement in active lifestyles.

Mayor Helen was part of a panel of Mayors across the Rohe talking about the success of active recreation across the region with a particular focus on the CACTUS programme within the community.



SECTOR UPDATES: TRENDS

Source: Disruptor Scan May 2025, Sport New Zealand.

Sport NZ's quarterly scan highlights potential disruptors to sport and recreation over the next two to five years. It serves as a tool for discussions on their implications and whether adjustments to current approaches are needed. The following disruptors have been identified as potentially relevant to MDC.

TECHNOLOGICAL

Artificial Intelligence

The NZ government has released a framework for the use of AI in the public service, based on OECD principles. Agentic AI, which perform tasks rather than just create content or respond to queries are becoming more popular, but there is great uncertainty about how firms can use them to add real value. There are growing calls to protect human creativity as a “natural resource” in the face of growing use of AI. The increasing use of AI by students could lead to many graduates being essentially illiterate and unable to think critically. AI is also anticipated to replace traditional search engines, posing a significant threat to Google’s core business and revenue source.

RELEVANCE: AI could improve how councils deliver services (e.g. customer support, planning tools, data analysis), making operations more efficient with the limited staff.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Active Transport

Waka Kotahi is developing an “Evidence Pack” to develop a better understanding of the transport network, including challenges, potential solutions, and their effectiveness. Cycleways are likely to be a contentious point of debate during some Council elections later this year. Potential candidates have already indicated they favour removing some existing bike ways and halting further developments where vehicles and parking are to be reduced.

RELEVANCE: Growing polarisation on transport safety measures suggest that partnering to strengthen community engagement to balance the needs of motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians while ensuring equitable transport investment could be an area of focus in 2025/26 planning.

SECTOR

Athlete and participant wellbeing

Recent months have seen heightened risks to athlete and participant wellbeing in New Zealand, with the launch of the controversial Runit Championship League, rising concussion claims among youth, and growing restrictions on transgender participation in sport. Social media-driven trends are also increasing unprepared backcountry hiking incidents. These developments, alongside neuroscientist warnings about new high-impact sports, highlight escalating concerns for safety, inclusion, and health across both traditional and emerging sporting activities.

RELEVANCE: Increased backcountry use, especially by unprepared participants, raises the need for clear signage, safety education, and collaboration with outdoor providers to prevent harm. This may be something that needs to be looked into as part of Asset management planning in rural reserves.

SECTOR

Workforce (including volunteers)

Between 2022 and March 2025, over 1,100 incorporated community sport organisations in New Zealand were dissolved by the Registrar of Incorporated Societies. New reporting requirements under the revised Incorporated Societies Act may make it harder to recruit and retain volunteers, as increased administrative demands deter people from taking on committee and governance roles. This legislative change, combined with ongoing workforce challenges, could significantly impact the sustainability and operation of sport and recreation organisations, including their reliance on volunteers.

RELEVANCE: For our district, this could mean fewer local sport opportunities, more club closures, and added pressure on Council facilities and funding issues

FINAL COMMENTS

The team at Sport Manawatū would like to sincerely thank Mayor Helen for her leadership and dedicated service to the Manawatū District. Your support for community wellbeing, sport, and recreation has helped shape a stronger, more connected district. We wish you all the best in your next chapter of life.

At the time of writing this report, staff are unsure of who is standing for re-election but thank councillors for their services and support to sport and recreation over the years across the district, and look forward to working with the new elected members in October.



APPENDIX

Active Families – Supporting vulnerable youth and families into physical activity

The aim of the Active Families/Teens programme is to support, educate and encourage whānau to set and achieve goals for lifestyle change and physical activity levels in children, young people and their whānau.

Over the past 6 months, Active Families has had 116 referrals and 29 out of them are from the Manawatū District. 10 of the referrals have been from our Active Teens programme and 19 from our Active Families programme.



Active Families referrals from the Manawatū District.

Manawatū Green Prescription – Impact



of participants reported being more active since engaging with the programme

*‘It’s not just me more active, but now my family!’
‘I have more movement in my hips and can now walk longer.’*



of participants have noticed positive health changes since engaging with the programme

*‘Much healthier. Recent blood tests and dr visits checks show positive improvements.’
‘I feel my balance has improved, feel stronger and have less pain.’
‘Improved BP and Diabetes management.’*



of participants feel more confident about doing Physical Activity since engaging with the programme.

*‘I am feeling more confident with walking the family dog.’
‘I have learnt how to safely exercise given my personal injuries.’*



of participants feel that they have been prescribed activities that are relevant and appropriate to their needs/wellness goals.



of participants have developed better nutritional habits since engaging with the programme.
*‘Through the programme I have learnt how to cook meals including beans/ lentils. I am also eating less fried meals.’
‘I am now more conscience of eating healthier meals and snacks.’
‘Eating more greens and less fry-ups.’*



GRx referrals from the Manawatū District in the past 6 months.



GRx referrals from the Manawatū District in the past 12 months.

SUCCESS STORY: FROM WHEELCHAIR TO LINE DANCING

Karolyn Carroll, along with her son Lucas, joined the Green Prescription (GRx) programme in the final two weeks of Term 1, 2025, after being referred by a physiotherapist at Palmerston North Hospital. For Karolyn, this marked the beginning of a transformative journey toward reclaiming her independence and rebuilding her life following a major spinal injury and surgery in India.

Prior to joining GRx, Karolyn was largely wheelchair-bound and living with significant daily pain. With no guidance on how to safely begin recovery post-surgery, her ability to exercise was extremely limited, and her overall health had suffered due to long-term use of high-dose pain medication. She was unsure how to begin moving again, let alone exercising, without risking further harm.

Since starting the GRx programme, both Karolyn and Lucas have seen incredible improvements. They now exercise 4–5 times per week, attending GRx classes in Palmerston North and Feilding, going for regular walks, and, most remarkably, participating in line dancing twice a week.

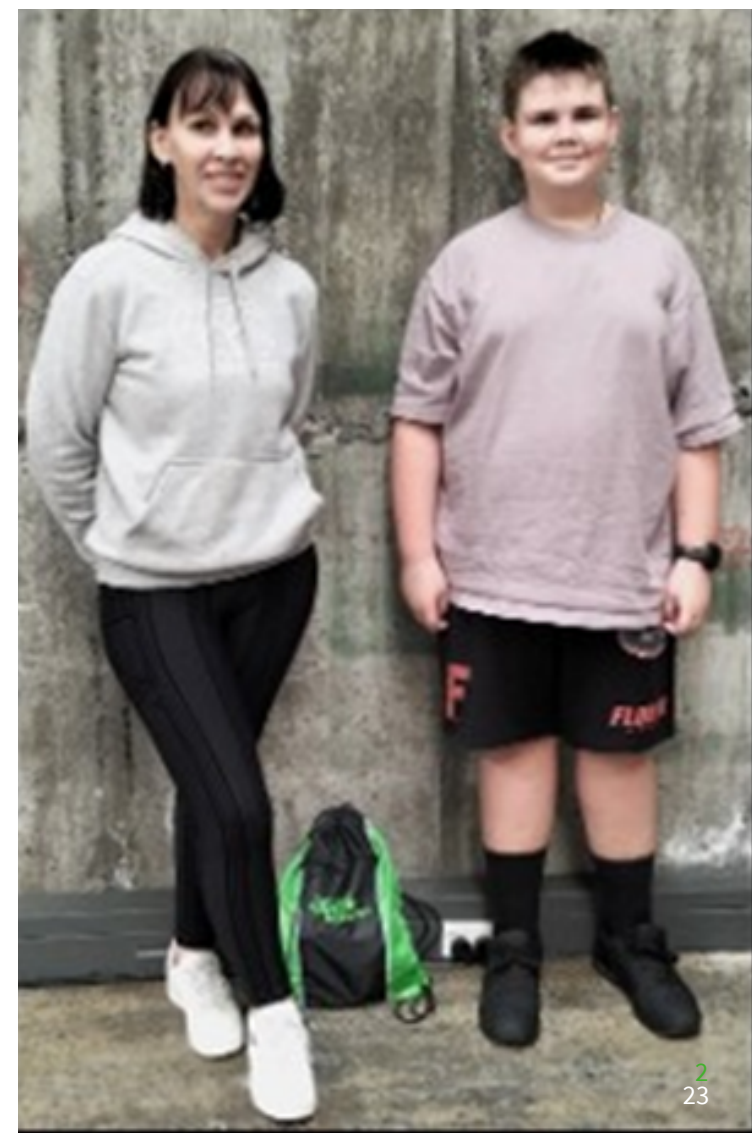
Karolyn, once fearful of movement, has regained confidence and begun rebuilding muscle strength after nearly two years of limited mobility. Both she and Lucas feel noticeably fitter and stronger.

Beyond physical improvements, the GRx programme has provided education around healthy eating, stroke and heart disease prevention, diabetes management, and how to exercise safely with specific medical conditions. Karolyn and Lucas particularly appreciated the engaging guest speakers, and they found the support from Sport Manawātū staff to be incredibly welcoming and encouraging.

What began as an effort simply to "get to the gym" quickly exceeded expectations. The programme not only met their exercise needs but also offered valuable educational content and social connection. For Karolyn, this has been crucial, not just for physical recovery, but also for reducing isolation and regaining a sense of community.

Both Karolyn and Lucas intend to continue their involvement with the programme. For Karolyn, ongoing participation is essential to her long-term recovery and prevention of further injury. For Lucas, it's a chance to keep learning and to grow stronger.

Karolyn wholeheartedly recommends the GRx programme to anyone needing support with exercise, nutrition, or simply getting back out into the world after a health setback. "Everyone has been so friendly and welcoming," she says. "It's an amazing group of people."





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Council

Meeting of 21 August 2025

Business Unit: Infrastructure

Date Created: 11 July 2025

Adoption of the Water Services Delivery Plan

Purpose Te Aronga o te Pūrongo

The present the Water Services Delivery Plan for approval to submit to the Department of Internal Affairs.

Recommendations Ngā Tūtohunga

1. That Council adopt the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) for approval for submission to the Department of Internal Affairs.

AND

2. That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve any minor edits to the Water Services Delivery Plan, detailed in the minutes of this meeting, prior to submission to the Department of Internal Affairs.

Note: The Water Services Delivery Plan must be submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs before 3 September 2025 to meet the legislative timeframe for submission.

Report prepared by:

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Approved for submission by:

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General Manager - Infrastructure

1 Background Ngā Kōrero o Muri

- 1.1 Council has been working through the Local Water Done Well programme over the past 12 months.
- 1.2 Under the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 (“the Act”), Council has a choice about how water services are delivered in the future so long as it meets new rules for investment, borrowing and pricing. There will also be a new regulator overseeing compliance with these rules.
- 1.3 Council participated in a regional options appraisal project with all of the Councils in the Manawatū-Whanganui Region. This project looked at a multi-council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation and concluded that the seven council arrangement was not financially beneficial for Manawatū ratepayers, with Manawatū District Council providing cross-subsidisation to most of the other councils within the region throughout the entirety of the 30 year period that was modelled. On 7 November 2024, Council resolved to discontinue further work on a multi-council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation involving all seven councils and resolved the following:
 - 1.3.1 To consider the development of a Water Service Delivery Plan on the basis of an in-house, stand-alone model (the status quo).
 - 1.3.2 To continue further work on the viability of a single-council (Manawatū District Council) Water Service Council Controlled Organisation.
 - 1.3.3 To continue further work on the viability of a multi-council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation between Manawatū District Council and Palmerston North City Council.
 - 1.3.4 To continue further work on the viability of a multi-council Water Service Council Controlled Organisation between Manawatū District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Horowhenua District Council and Kapiti Coast District Council.
- 1.4 Council has also continued to assess the full impact of moving water services into a Water Services Council Controlled Organisation with particular reference to the impact of stranded overheads¹ on the residual organisation should water services be separated out from Council’s operations.
- 1.5 Council engaged Morrison Low (an independent advisory / consultancy company) to compare and contrast the various Water Service Council Controlled Organisation options. The considerations around the impact of stranded overheads on the residual organisation should water services be separated out from Council’s operations applies differently in each Water Service Council Controlled Organisation scenario.

¹ Forming a Council Controlled Organisation means that some fixed costs — such as office expenses, IT systems, and certain corporate staff — remain with the Council, while the revenue previously used to fund these overheads is no longer available.

- 1.6 On 19 December 2024, Council resolved to discontinue further work on a single-council MDC Water Service Council Controlled Organisation and resolved the following:
- That Council publicly consult on an in-house, stand-alone model (the status quo) for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū district and that this option would be Council's preferred option.
 - That Council publicly consult on a multi-council Water Services Council Controlled Organisation jointly between Manawatū District Council and Palmerston North City Council for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū district.
 - That Council publicly consult on a multi-council Water Services Council Controlled Organisation jointly between Manawatū District Council, Palmerston North City Council, Horowhenua District Council and Kapiti Coast District Council for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū district.
- 1.7 Council adopted the Consultation Document for Local Water Done Well at the 21 February 2025 Council meeting. The public consultation period was from 10 March 2025 until 5pm, Friday 11 April. A total of 505 submissions were received. Ten submitters spoke to their submissions at the Hearing on 1 May 2025.
- 1.8 On the 15 May 2025 Council meeting, Council adopted the Option 1 – an in-house stand-alone business unit as its preferred option for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū District. Council also approved the responses to issues and concerns raised in submissions on Local Water Done Well for distribution. The Water Services Delivery Plan has been developed based on this preferred option.
- 1.9 A draft version of the Water Services Delivery Plan was shared with the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) for feedback in late June 2025. The DIA was generally supportive of Council's Draft Plan but requested more information in relation to financial ringfencing provisions and details of the asset renewal programme outside of Feilding. Amendments were made to the draft Water Services Delivery Plan based on this feedback.
- 1.10 Councils are required to develop and submit plans, either individually or collectively with other Councils, to the DIA by 3 September 2025. The Secretary for Local Government holds responsibility for accepting or not accepting plans.
- 1.11 Water Services Delivery Plans are a one-off transitional requirement under the Act for those Councils adopting a CCO delivery model. However, councils that have adopted a stand-alone in-house water services delivery model, must submit a new water services delivery plan by 3 September 2030, and every five years thereafter.
- 1.12 If a Plan is rejected by the Secretary for Local Government it must be amended or re-submitted by a specified deadline. If the Plan is accepted by the Secretary of Local Government, that council must then give effect to the content of the Plan. This has flow-on implications for councils' annual and long-term planning, and bylaws.
- 1.13 The DIA and the National Transition Unit use the plans to monitor:
- Whether councils and entities are meeting transition milestones
 - Whether risks to water service continuity are being addressed.

The Secretary can require progress reports if there is concern over compliance. If there are ongoing concerns regarding implementation of the Plan, the Minister has the power to appoint additional facilitators or commissioners to enforce compliance.

- 1.14 The proposed Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) is now presented for approval for submission to the DIA. Once adopted, Council's Water Services Delivery Plan will guide statutory processes, ensure compliance with the Water Services Legislation Act 2023, and support ongoing accountability of the new water services

2 Strategic Fit Te Tautika ki te Rautaki

- 2.1 This report and the decision sought aligns with Council's strategic priority of "A future planned together." Council consulted with the Manawatū community to obtain feedback on which of the three options consulted on was most preferred. Council deliberated on all feedback received at the 1 May 2025 Council meeting and made its final decision on its preferred model for the delivery of water services at the 15 May 2025 Council meeting. The Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) has been prepared based on this preferred model, as informed by community feedback.
- 2.2 Council's strategic priority of "An Environment to be proud of" is relevant to Council's decision-making with respect to the future ownership, management and delivery of water services. Council is committed to ensuring that water services are managed in a way that protects the Manawatū District's natural and physical resources now, and into the future.
- 2.3 This report and the decision sought aligns with Council's strategic priority of "Infrastructure fit for future" as the purpose of this work is to ensure that the water services of the Manawatū are delivered in a way that meets the need of the Manawatū District's community now, and into the future.
- 2.4 Council's strategic priority of "value for money and excellence in local government" is also relevant to this report as the Water Services Delivery Plan demonstrates how Council will ensure financially sustainable delivery of water services for the Manawatū District.

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

Key features of Council's Water Services Delivery Plan

- 3.1 The content and consultation requirements for the Water Services Delivery Plan are prescribed in the Act. The Plan was developed using the DIA's template for Water Services Delivery Plans.
- 3.2 Part A of the Plan includes the Statement of financial sustainability, information on how Council arrived at its preferred delivery model, the implementation plan, including actions, responsible parties, timeframes and key milestones, and assurance.
- 3.3 The Act requires that each Plan submitted to the Secretary for Local Government for acceptance must include a certification made by the Chief Executive. This certification will confirm that the Plan complies with the Act and that the information contained in the Plan is true and accurate.
- 3.4 Part B of the Plan includes contextual information and provides an overview of current network performance and levels of service for wastewater, drinking water and stormwater,

the statement of regulatory compliance, capital expenditure required to deliver water services and ensure water services comply with regulatory requirements (including information on significant capital projects).

- 3.5 Part C of the Plan includes information on revenue and charging arrangements, including charging and billing arrangements, water services revenue requirements and sources, existing and projected commercial and industrial users' charges, the affordability of projected water services charges for communities, internal borrowing arrangements and determination of debt attributed to water services.
- 3.6 Charges for water services are determined through the Council's Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes, both of which involve public consultation. Council follows a cost-recovery model where fees and charges are designed to cover the full cost of service delivery. All revenue collected for water services will be ringfenced. This means it will be accounted for separately from other Council finances and used exclusively to support the delivery and maintenance of water services within the district.
- 3.7 Part D of the Plan includes the Financial Sustainability Assessment. This includes information on the actions that Council will take to ensure financially sustainable delivery of water services, including in relation to revenue, investment and financial sufficiency.
- 3.8 Part E of the Plan includes the projected financial statements for water services, including additional information and risks and assumptions.
- 3.9 The Water Services Delivery Plan has been prepared using information from a variety of Council information including asset information, Council Plans (such as the Long-term Plan and Asset Management Plans), Infrastructure Strategy, financial modelling and information contained in previous Council decisions. Council has followed a collaborative approach, with involvement by the Infrastructure, Finance and Strategy teams. The Executive Leadership Team has provided leadership oversight in the development of the Plan. This collective effort ensures that Council can be assured that the Plan contains the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Options

- 3.10 The options available to Council today are:
 - 1. That the Council approves the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) for submission to the Department of Internal Affairs (recommendation 1).
 - 2. That the Council approves the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex) for submission to the Department of Internal Affairs, subject to minor changes that are agreed at this meeting and detailed in the minutes (recommendations 1 and 2). Recommendation 2 of this report seeks the delegation of authority to the Chief Executive to approve these minor edits prior to submission of the Plan to the Department of Internal Affairs.
- 3.11 If Council supports option 1, a copy of this decision will be attached to the Water Services Delivery Plan and it will then be submitted to the DIA for approval.
- 3.12 If Council supports option 2, those minor changes requested by Council will be noted in the minutes of this meeting. If Council supports the delegation of authority to the Chief Executive to approve these minor changes, these will be completed and approved prior to the Plan being submitted to the DIA.

3.13 There is a statutory requirement that Water Services Delivery Plans be submitted to the DIA ahead of the deadline of 3 September 2025. The next scheduled Council meeting is 4 September 2025. Therefore, if Council does not approve the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) for submission to the Department of Internal Affairs at this meeting, an extra meeting would need to be scheduled.

3.14 Alternatively, the Chief Executive could submit the Water Services Delivery Plan to the Department of Internal Affairs without formal Council adoption. However, this would be inconsistent with the approach that has previously been agreed by Council.

4 Risk Assessment Te Arotake Tūraru

4.1 The Hearings and Deliberations Report on Local Water Done Well, presented at the 1 May 2025 Council meeting, identified the following potential risks:

- **Strategic risk** – the potential for further government reform requiring councils to shift from their preferred model to the delivery of water services towards a joint CCO approach.
- **Economic regulation** – the risk of economic regulation impacting on how Council funds the delivery of water services.
- **Privatisation** – the risk of future privatisation of water services.
- **Accuracy of cost forecasting** – the risk that the cost forecasting that informed Council's understanding of the financial impact of each water service delivery option on ratepayers is inaccurate.

4.2 While these risks are still considered relevant to the decision that Council is making today, they were of greater relevance to Council's decision on which water services delivery model to adopt as its preferred option.

4.3 The following risks are also relevant to the approval and submission of Council's Water Services Delivery Plan:

- **Accuracy of the information contained in the Plan** – there is a risk that information contained in the Water Services Delivery Plan is inaccurate or does not accurately represent Council's intentions in relation to implementation of its preferred delivery model.
- **Legislative risk** – that Council requests substantial changes be made to the Water Services Delivery Plan that results in Council not achieving the statutory deadline of 3 September 2025 for the submission of its Water Services Delivery Plan to the DIA. If Council fails to submit its Water Services Delivery Plan ahead of the deadline, the Minister for Local Government may appoint a Crown Water Services Specialist to take over preparing the Plan on the Council's behalf. The result of which would be a lower level of Council decision-making control over the way water services are delivered for the Manawātū District.
- **Rejection of Council's Water Services Delivery Plan by the Secretary of Local Government** – after submission of the Plan to the DIA, it is reviewed by the Secretary for Local Government. If the Secretary determines that the Plan does not comply with

legislative requirements, they can reject it and require amendments or a full re-submission by a specified deadline.

- 4.4 The risk that the Water Services Delivery Plan includes inaccurate information is considered low as it has been prepared based on the best available information from across Council. The Executive Leadership Team has provided oversight on the development of the Plan and it has been internally reviewed for accuracy.
- 4.5 It is considered unlikely that Council will fail to meet its statutory obligation to submit the Water Services Delivery Plan to the DIA by the 3 September deadline. In presenting the draft Plan in August, Officers have allowed sufficient time for elected members to request amendments to the Plan prior to submission. Recommendation 2 of this report also allows for Council to delegate its authority to the Chief Executive to approve minor edits without the need to bring the Plan back to a future Council meeting.
- 4.6 If Council requests amendments and does not delegate its authority to the Chief Executive to approve these edits, an additional meeting will need to be scheduled to adopt and approve the amended Plan ahead of the 3 September 2025 deadline. Alternatively, the Chief Executive would have to submit the Plan to the DIA without having it first approved for submission by the Council.
- 4.7 The risk of the Plan being rejected by the Secretary of Local Government has been minimised by Council following the template that was developed by the DIA, and by seeking feedback on the draft version prior to presenting it today for adoption.

5 Engagement Te Whakapānga

Significance of Decision

- 5.1 There is a statutory obligation for Council to undertake consultation in relation to its anticipated or proposed model or arrangement for delivery water services in its water services delivery plan (Section 17(2)(a) of the Act). Sections 61 to 64 of the Act set out the requirements for this consultation. Paragraphs 5.5 to 5.9 of this report outline how Council complied with these consultation obligations.
- 5.2 Section 13(1)(m) of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 requires that Council include a summary of the consultation undertaken as part of developing the anticipated or proposed model or arrangements for delivering water services. This has been included in Part A of the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A).
- 5.3 While the decision discussed in this report is considered to be of high significance, in accordance with schedule 1 of the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, further public consultation is not required. The decision being sought today is the last step in the preparation of Council's Water Services Delivery Plan, and is more administrative in nature.

Māori and Cultural Engagement

- 5.4 Council met with iwi, including with members of Te Kōtui Reo, during consultation on the options being considered for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū District. A summary of this consultation is contained in Part A of the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A). Further engagement with iwi/Māori is not required in relation to this step of the Plan preparation process.

Community Engagement

- 5.5 The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 outlines the community engagement requirements to inform decision-making on Council's preferred model for the delivery of water services.
- 5.6 Council adopted the Manawatū District Council Consultation Document for the Local Water Done Well public consultation at the 6 March 2025 Council meeting. This document presented three options for the delivery of water services, including the advantages and disadvantages of each option.
- 5.7 Council consulted with the community over the period from 10 March to 11 April 2025.
- 5.8 The following public engagement events were held during the submissions period:
- Feilding Market: March 14
 - Family Fun Day: March 16
 - Pop Up Engagement at the Hub: March 21, 12.30-1.30pm
 - Public Meeting: Feilding, March 25 at 7pm
 - Pop Up Engagement at the Hub: March 26, 10-11am
 - Public Meeting: Kimbolton, March 27 at 7pm
 - Te Kōtui Reo Taumata: March 27
 - Feilding Market: March 28
 - Public Meeting: Rongotea, March 31 at 7pm
 - Pop Up Engagement at the Hub: April 3, 2.30pm-3.30pm
 - LWDW Hui: Feilding, April 7 at 6pm
- 5.9 Council received a total of 505 submissions. Of the 505 submissions received, 487 (96.4%) selected Option 1 as their preferred option, five (1%) selected Option 2, and 13 (2.6%) selected Option 3. This community feedback informed the decision that Council made at the 15 May 2025 Council meeting to adopt Option 1 (an in-house stand-alone building unit) as its preferred model for the delivery of water services in the Manawatū District.
- 5.10 Section 17(3) of the Act states that "...this Act does not require a territorial authority to consult on a draft or final water services delivery plan." Therefore, no further public consultation has been carried out to inform the drafting of the Water Services Delivery Plan that is being presented for adoption today.

6 Operational Implications Ngā Pānga Whakahaere

- 6.1 There are no operational implications with this report.

- 6.2 However, once the Secretary of Local Government has accepted Council's Water Services Delivery Plans, there will be minor operational implications associated with its implementation. These implications include additional reporting requirements and some changes to financial reporting to comply with the new ringfencing requirements.

7 Financial Implications *Ngā Pānga Ahumoni*

- 7.1 There are no financial implications directly related to this report. There is no cost associated with the submission of the adopted Water Services Delivery Plan with the DIA.
- 7.2 The financial implications for the implementation of the Water Services Delivery Plan are outlined in the Water Services Delivery Plan (Annex A) under the title of "Proposed delivery model to deliver financially sustainable water services." These costs include operational expenses, capital investment for new infrastructure assets, and compliance costs associated with regulatory obligations from the Water Services Authority and the Commerce Commission.

8 Statutory Requirements *Ngā Here ā-Ture*

- 8.1 The Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 requires Council to prepare Water Services Delivery Plan that:
- Identifies the current state of the authority's water services; and
 - Demonstrates publicly its commitment to deliver water services in a way that:
 - Ensures that the territorial authority will meet all relevant regulatory quality standards for its water services; and
 - Is financially sustainable for the territorial authority; and
 - Ensures that the territorial authority will meet all drinking water quality standards; and
 - Supports the territorial authority's housing growth and urban development, as specified in the territorial authority's long-term plan.
- 8.2 Section 17(1) of the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 states that "a territorial authority must adopt a water services delivery plan by resolution."

9 Next Steps *Te Kokenga*

- 9.1 Following adoption of the Water Services Plan, a copy of the Council resolution will be included in the Plan prior to its submission to the DIA.
- 9.2 Once the Secretary of Local Government has accepted the Water Services Delivery Plan, Council will commence implementation of the Plan.

10 Attachments *Ngā Āpitihanga*

- Water Services Delivery Plan 2025 - Uploaded as Separate File (due to size)