AGENDA/KAUPAPA

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

P O Box 747, Gisborne, Ph 06 867 2049 Fax 06 867 8076
Email service@gdc.govt.nz Web www.gdc.govt.nz

MEMBERSHIP: Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Colin Alder, Alexandra Boros, Larry Foster, Samuel Gibson, Debbie Gregory, Anne Huriwai, Jeremy Muir, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Rob Telfer, Daniel Thompson, Rhonda Tibble and Nick Tupara

SUSTAINABLE TAIRAWHITI /TOITŪ TAIRĀWHITI Committee

DATE: Thursday 11 June 2026

TIME: 9:00AM

AT: Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

AGENDA – OPEN SECTION

Sustainable Tairāwhiti / Toitū Tairāwhiti

Reports to:	Council
Chairperson:	Mayor Rehette Stoltz
Deputy Chairperson:	Deputy Mayor Aubrey Ria
Membership:	Mayor and Councillors
Quorum:	Half of the members when the number is even and a majority when the membership is uneven.
Meeting frequency:	Six weekly (or as required).

Purpose

To develop, approve, review and recommend to Council (where applicable) statutory and non-statutory policy, plans, bylaws, strategies and decisions to:

- Develop a vision and a pathway for the future of the district.
- Sustainably manage resources in the region.
- Identify and promote community aspirations.
- Define and deliver on Council's roles.
- Integrate an all-of-wellbeing approach to strategy, plan and policy development.
- Have effective statutory plans and bylaws to protect community and environmental needs.

Terms of Reference

- Develop, review and make decisions in relation to strategies, plans and policies across the Council relating to community, environment, and infrastructure, including making any delegable decision under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) and Local Government Act 2002 (LGA).
- Ensure the effective implementation of plans, processes, research, monitoring and enforcement to satisfy the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), National Policy Statements, National Environmental Standards and associated legislation (including any replacement legislation).
- Lead the development of Council's draft Long Term Plan, Annual Plan and all other policies required under the LGA to be included in the Long Term Plan (including the Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy), and any amendment to those plans or policies. This includes approving draft versions for consultation, hear submissions, and making recommendations to Council following consultation.
- Oversee the Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan review programme, including policy direction, programme monitoring and decision-making.

- Appoint hearing panels of accredited commissioners for hearing submissions on proposed plans, variations and plan changes under the RMA
- Monitor and report on environmental performance trends and the effectiveness of and compliance with Council's resource management responsibilities and activities associated with policy implementation.
- Receive and review State of the Environment monitoring reports to assist in future activity planning and policy development.
- Bylaw development – make any decisions leading up to consultation on a proposal relating to a bylaw. This includes approval of a draft bylaw and/or proposal for consultation.
- Approve the adoption or amendment of a Local Alcohol Policy under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act.
- Establish, implement and review the operational policy and planning framework for decision making that will assist in achieving the strategic priorities and outcomes
- Monitor, review and develop Council responses, strategies, plans and policy in relation to Iwi and Māori commitments.
- Prepare submissions on any matter that is within its role and terms of reference for Council.
- Make any related decisions that are required to be made by resolution, except those that are not legally able to be delegated.

Power to Act

To make all decisions necessary to fulfil the role and scope of the Committee subject to the limitations imposed.

To establish subcommittees, working parties and forums as required.

To appoint non-voting advisory members (such as tangata whenua representatives) to assist the Committee.

Power to Recommend

To Council and/or any Council committee as it deems appropriate.

3.1. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes 5 March 2026

MINUTES

Draft & Unconfirmed

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
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MINUTES of the SUSTAINABLE TAIRAWHITI /TOITŪ TAIRĀWHITI Committee

Held in Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne on Thursday 5 March 2026 at 9:00AM.

PRESENT:

Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Colin Alder, Alexandra Boros, Larry Foster, Samuel Gibson, Debbie Gregory, Anne Huriwai, Jeremy Muir, Rawinia Parata, Rob Telfer, Daniel Thompson, Rhonda Tibble, Nick Tupara

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Nedine Thatcher Swann, Director Lifelines Tim Barry, Director Internal Partnerships & Protection James Baty, Director Engagement & Maori Partnerships Anita Reedy-Holthausen, Chief Financial Officer Pauline Foreman, Director Sustainable Futures Jocelyne Allen, Principal Advisor Integrated Strategy Tessa Buchanan, Strategic Planning Manager Charlotte Knight, Chief Advisor Maori Gene Takurua, Senior Governance Advisor Teremoana Kingi and Committee Secretary Jill Simpson.

The meeting commenced with a prayer/karakia.

1. Apologies

MOVED by Cr Gibson, seconded by Cr Foster

That the apologies from Cr Huriwai for lateness and apologies from Cr Ria be sustained.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

3. Governance Work Plan

Noted.

4. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

5. Acknowledgements and Tributes

There were no acknowledgements or tributes.

6. Public Input and Petitions

There were no public input or petitions.

7. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

8. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

9. Adjourned Business

There was no adjourned business.

10. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for INFORMATION

10.1 26-17 Introduction to the Infrastructure Strategy

Director Sustainable Futures Jocelyne Allen and Principal Advisor Integrated Strategy Tessa Buchanan attended.

Questions of clarification included:

- The valuations for land, rivers, coastal assets, and community facilities are sourced from the Asset Management Plans adopted as part of the previous Long-Term Plan, with valuations undertaken in 2023.
- A full assessment will be completed through the next asset revaluation process, with information reviewed and updated accordingly.
- Landfills, with an approximate total replacement value of $2 million, were noted as not being a significant asset. It was clarified that an asset's value and nature are not directly comparable to the cost of developing a new landfill.
- The figures presented reflect the value and type of the existing asset, rather than the cost of constructing a new landfill.
- The Committee agreed that equity should be included in the list of significant infrastructure issues developed by staff.

Secretarial note: Cr Huriwai arrived at 9.15am

MOVED by Cr Gregory, seconded by Cr Thompson

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. Notes any further updates before decisions are sought on the 2027 Infrastructure Strategy will be provided to Councillors via email.

CARRIED

10.2 26-16 Introduction to Development Contributions and Development Levies

Director Sustainable Futures Jocelyne Allen and Principal Advisor Integrated Strategy Tessa Buchanan attended.

Questions of clarification included:

- It was clarified that development contributions are not intended to be used for purposes other than those specified in the Policy and may be used within a reasonable timeframe of up to around 10 years. It was noted that this timeframe is not prescribed by statute.
- In relation to historical land exchange arrangements, an example was noted where vacant land, now overgrown with weeds has remained undeveloped. This example fell outside the development contributions framework, and a private agreement entered into under which no development contribution was required. It was noted that there is no Gisborne District Council (Council)decision outlining how such land should be treated.
- Development contributions are charged only within defined catchment areas, primarily based on the Gisborne urban area.
- A report will be presented to Council for decision, including matters relating to the setting of the HUE, including provisions for granny flats.

MOVED by Cr Stoltz, seconded by Cr Telfer

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. Notes any further updates on progress of the limited review of the Development Contributions Policy will be provided to Councillors via email until decisions are sought.

CARRIED

10.3 26-22 Future Development Strategy - Implementation Plan 2025 Update

Director Sustainable Futures Jocelyne Allen and Strategic Planning Manager Charlotte Knight attended.

Questions of clarification included:

- Te Ranga Whakahau (TRW) is the Council's senior leadership team, comprising the Chief Executive and Directors.
- The importance of ongoing collaboration with Kāinga Ora on future partnership opportunities was acknowledged, with community benefit as a key focus.
- As part of the Long-Term Plan, a stocktake of all policies and strategies is undertaken to provide an overview of current activity.
- Through the Housing and Business Capacity Assessment, it was identified that an additional 5,360 homes are required over the next 30 years.
- A review of rural townships, including zoning, land availability, and projected population growth, confirmed that sufficient development capacity exists within existing provisions.

- No additional development incentives are required through the strategy, with growth to be managed through a multi-pronged approach under the current plan.
- In relation to Plan Change Six, the rules considered focused on zoning provisions, including consideration of alternative energy sources and minimising existing barriers.
- Council cannot require building standards beyond the New Zealand Building Code but may encourage and incentivise alternative approaches.
- While the building regulatory framework is set nationally, opportunities exist for regional action and national advocacy in relation to building materials.
- Manaaki Tairāwhiti maintains a spreadsheet capturing known development activity in the pipeline, which Council uses as a key data source to identify development drivers.
- Reference was made to Trust Tairāwhiti's work on the broader energy strategy.

MOVED by Cr Boros, seconded by Cr Tibble

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. Notes the Future Development Strategy Implementation Plan 2025 has been adopted by Te Ranga Whakahau (TRW) and will be uploaded on to Council's website following this meeting.

CARRIED

10.4 26-38 Local Government New Zealand Remit

Director Sustainable Futures Jocelyne Allen and Principal Advisor Integrated Strategy Tessa Buchanan attended.

Questions of clarification included:

- It was noted that the Building Act includes specific requirements for earthquake strengthening, which are currently under government review and may be subject to change.
- Where there is a change of use—such as a building being used for accommodation where it was not previously—upgrading is required to bring the building as close as reasonably practicable to the standard of a new building. This is a higher standard than for earthquake strengthening currently.
- Short-term accommodation such as Airbnb is not considered accommodation use where it does not involve more than five non-family members residing in the building.
- Section 11.5 (Change of Use) is assessed based on the building's original purpose, rather than activities occurring within or around it.
- Buildings assessed as posing a fire risk are subject to a dangerous building notice and must be vacated.
- Under the Building Act 2004, a building may be considered dangerous in the normal course of events, including wind, gravity, and live loads, but excluding earthquake risk.

- It was noted that only a small number of earthquake-prone buildings remain in Gisborne, with two to three potentially at risk due to previous significant earthquakes; however, none are currently assessed as posing a significant risk.

MOVED by Cr Stoltz, seconded by Cr Gregory

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

11. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9:45 am.

Rehette Stoltz
MAYOR

3.2. Action Register

Meeting Date	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Due Date
5-03-2026	10.3 26-22 Future Development Strategy - Implementation Plan 2025 Update	Completed	Find if Council has a role in the development in Ruatoria where 200 homes are connecting to sharing solar energy	Jocelyne Allen	11-06-2026

Action Taken
17/04/2026 Jocelyne Allen

No Council regulatory departments have been approached or are aware of the Ruatoria development involving approximately 200 homes connecting to solar energy. As at 17 April 2026, Council has no involvement or regulatory role in this development.

3.3. Governance Work Plan

2026 Sustainable Tairāwhiti						Meeting Dates					
HUB	**Activity**	**Name of agenda item**	**Purpose**	**Report type**	**Owner**	**5-Mar**	**~~29-Apr~~**	**11-Jun**	**17-Sep**	**29-Oct**	**3-Dec**
Sustainable Futures	Strategic Planning	Approval to Consult - Public Places and Reserves Bylaws		Decision (D)	Makarand Rodge						
Sustainable Futures	Strategic Planning	Draft Infrastructure Strategy		Decision (D)	Tessa Buchanan						
Sustainable Futures	Strategic Planning	Draft Development Contributions Policy		Decision (D)	Tessa Buchanan						
Liveable Communities	Solid Waste	26-107 Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2025 - 2031 Consultation Summary and Recommended Amendments	This report is to present the submissions received on the Draft WMMP 2025-2031 following public consultation under the Special Consultative Procedure. The report provides officer analysis and recommendations to seek Council decisions on proposed amendments to inform the final WMMP for adoption.	Decision (D)	Charlotte Phelps						
Sustainable Futures	Strategy and Science	26-132 Council Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan		Decision (D)	Sally McIntosh						
Sustainable Futures	Strategic Planning	Significance and Engagement Policy: Amendments required under water services legislation		Decision (D)	Tessa Buchanan						
Sustainable Futures	Strategic Planning	Property Strategy		Decision (D)	Tessa Buchanan						

2026 Sustainable Tairāwhiti						Meeting Dates					
HUB	**Activity**	**Name of agenda item**	**Purpose**	**Report type**	**Owner**	**5-Mar**	**29-Apr**	**11-Jun**	**17-Sep**	**29-Oct**	**3-Dec**
Sustainable Futures	Resource Consents	26-129 Resource Consenting Statutory Performance	The purpose of this report is to advise Council of the Resource Consents sections performance over the last 3 months, to report on progress of our continuous improvement programme and to advise of consents granted and consents currently under application.	Information (I)	Awhina White						

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
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DISTRICT COUNCIL

26-107

Title:	**26-107 Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2025 - 2031 Consultation Summary and Recommended Amendments**
Section:	Solid Waste
Prepared by:	Charlotte Phelps - Waste Minimisation Lead
Meeting Date:	Thursday 11 June 2026

Legal: No	Financial: No	Significance: **Low**

Report to SUSTAINABLE TAIRAWHITI /TOITŪ TAIRĀWHITI for decision

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to present the submissions received on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) 2025 – 2031 following public consultation under the Special Consultative Procedure. The report provides officer analysis and recommends Committee approval on the proposed amendments to inform the final WMMP for adoption.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

Gisborne District Council (Council) is required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 to review its Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) every six years. A draft WMMP 2025–2031 was developed and released for public consultation under the Special Consultative Procedure from 20 March to 23 April 2026.

A total of 27 submissions were received, with three submitters requesting to be heard. Feedback indicates overall support for the direction of the Draft WMMP, with the majority of submitters supporting adoption either as drafted or with suggested changes. Submitter feedback largely focused on refinements, clearer delivery detail, and strengthening emphasis in key areas rather than a change in strategic direction.

Following analysis of submissions, officers have developed a set of proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP (Attachment 1). These amendments respond to feedback received through consultation while maintaining the overall strategic direction of the plan. A number of matters raised in submissions were either already addressed in the draft or are outside the scope of the WMMP and do not result in proposed changes.

Officers also recommend updating the plan period to 2026–2032 to align with the expected adoption date.

Committee direction is now sought to:

- Approve the proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP; and
- Authorise officers to incorporate the approved amendments into the final WMMP for presentation to Council for adoption.

The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS - NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. **Receives the submissions on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 – 2031.**
2. **Approves the proposed amendments to the Draft as set out in Attachment 1, noting that minor refinements to wording may be required prior to incorporation into the final plan that will be presented to Council for final adoption.**
3. **Approves the WMMP period being updated to 2026 – 2032 to reflect the timing of adoption and implementation.**
4. **Notes the final WMMP will be presented to Council for adoption following incorporation of approved amendments.**

Authorised by:

Michele Frey - Director Liveable Communities

Keywords: Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, WMMP, Special Consultative Procedure, submissions, solid waste, Matauranga

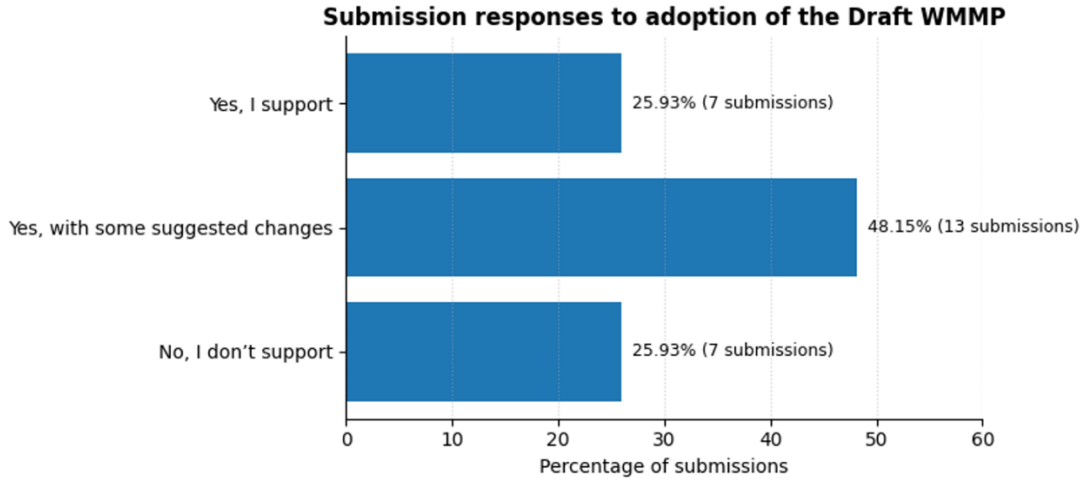
BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 requires territorial authorities to adopt a Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) and to review that plan every six years.
2. Following completion of the Gisborne District Council Waste Assessment 2024, Council resolved to proceed with reviewing and amending the existing WMMP 2018 – 2024.
3. The WMMP review process has considered guidance from the Ministry for the Environment, along with the New Zealand Waste and Resource Efficiency Strategy (2025).
4. The Draft WMMP has been developed through a staged engagement process. Stage one included early community and stakeholder engagement, resulting in a high level of feedback, which informed development of the early engagement draft WMMP.
5. The early engagement draft WMMP was presented to councillors at a workshop on 26 August 2025, with feedback emphasising the importance of clarity, accessibility, and ensuring communities could see themselves reflected in the plan.
6. Stage two of engagement involved further targeted engagement and refinement, including engagement with waste industry stakeholders, community groups, iwi and hapū, internal workshops, and application of a Mātauranga Māori lens.
7. Feedback from this process informed refinement of the Draft WMMP, including simplifying the document structure, improving clarity, and strengthening the link between objectives, actions and delivery.
8. On 12 March 2026, Council approved the Draft WMMP to proceed to public consultation under the Special Consultative Procedure in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 (**Report 26-63 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) DRAFT**).
9. A Mātauranga Māori lens report was received prior to public consultation and has informed proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP, as outlined in Attachment 1.
10. Public consultation was undertaken from 20 March to 23 April 2026. A total of 27 submissions were received (Attachment 2) and have been reviewed and analysed by officers to inform proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP, as outlined in Attachment 1.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

11. Submissions received through the consultation process have been reviewed and analysed by officers.
12. Overall, the response indicated of the 27 submissions received, 74.08% of submitters supported adoption either as drafted or with amendments. This included 25.93% who supported adoption as drafted and 48.15% who supported adoption with changes. The remaining 25.93% did not support adoption. Overall, the submissions indicate majority support for the direction of the draft WMMP, with most suggested changes seeking refinements, clearer delivery detail or stronger emphasis in areas rather than a change in strategic direction.

13. Figure 1: Responses to consultation question: "Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025 to 2031"



14. Key themes included:
    a. Increased emphasis on education and engagement
    b. Organics, compost and food waste
    c. Kerbside collection and wheelie bins
    d. Resource recovery centre and recovery facilities
    e. Product stewardship, packaging and lobbying.

15. A number of submissions raised matters already addressed within the Draft WMMP or outside the scope of the plan, and do not result in proposed amendments. These included matters such as issues already provided for within the Draft WMMP, operational matters, or requests outside Council's Solid Waste role.

16. Submissions that did not support the Draft WMMP have been considered alongside supportive and conditional submissions. Where matters raised were within scope and supported refinement of the plan, they have informed the proposed amendments.

17. While overall support was positive, some areas generated mixed feedback, particularly in relation to kerbside collection approaches, wheelie bins and the future role of resource recovery infrastructure. These matters have been considered alongside the wider support for the overall direction of the plan.

18. Following consideration of submissions, officers have developed a set of proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP. These amendments are framed as refinements that reflect feedback received through consultation, rather than changes to the strategic direction of the plan. They are outlined in Attachment 1 and include targeted changes such as refinement of the resource recovery centre action to reflect recent Council decisions **(Report 26-44 Regional Transfer Station and Resource Recovery Centre)** and updating the plan to WMMP 2026 – 2032 to reflect when it will be adopted.

19. Amendments in Attachment 1 also incorporate input from the Mātauranga Māori lens report. Key themes reflected in the proposed amendments include strengthening the integration of te ao Māori values and mātāpono throughout the WMMP, improving visibility of te reo Māori, reinforcing partnership approaches with iwi and hapū, and embedding more community-led and culturally grounded approaches to waste minimisation, recovery and reporting.

20. The Committee is now asked to consider and approve the proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP as set out in Attachment 1.

Option 1: Approve proposed amendments (recommended)

21. Approving the proposed amendments enables the Draft WMMP to be refined in response to submissions and prepared for final adoption. This approach reflects the community and stakeholder feedback while maintaining the strategic intent of the plan.

Option 2: Do not approve proposed amendments

22. Retaining the Draft WMMP without amendment would not reflect feedback received through consultation and would limit the ability to refine the plan prior to adoption.

23. The diagram below provides an overview of the WMMP development and adoption process, including completed milestones and remaining steps. The process is currently at the Sustainable Tairāwhiti (ST) Approval step.

WMMP steps to Council adoption

ASSESSMENT of SIGNIFICANCE - AROTAKENGA o NGĀ HIRANGA

Consideration of consistency with and impact on the Regional Land Transport Plan and its implementation
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

Impacts on Council's delivery of its Financial Strategy and Long Term Plan
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

Inconsistency with Council's current strategy and policy
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on all or a large part of the Gisborne district
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on individuals or specific communities
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

24. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

TREATY COMPASS ANALYSIS

Kāwanatanga

25. This report reaffirms Council's commitment to fostering meaningful and enduring partnerships that empower tāngata whenua to actively participate in regional waste planning, decision-making and implementation. By recognising tāngata whenua as key stakeholders in this process, Council supports equitable access to influence and engagement opportunities. This inclusive approach creates pathways for shared leadership, co-design and collaborative management of regional waste-related initiatives.

Rangatiratanga

26. The process to amend the WMMP affirms and advances the integration of te ao Māori-led perspectives on waste within the broader regional framework, shaping the long-term waste minimisation direction for Te Tairāwhiti. Central to this approach is the active inclusion of Mana Whenua voices at both iwi and hapū levels, ensuring that local perspectives, values, and priorities meaningfully inform decision-making.

27. Drawing inspiration from progress in other regions such as Waikato and Waipā, where Mātauranga Māori-driven initiatives have successfully influenced waste reduction strategies, the report underscores the importance of collaborative partnerships with local authorities and specialist providers, such as, but not limited to, Para Kore Marae Incorporated, alongside Mana Whenua Partners. By embedding iwi and hapū leadership at the heart of planning and delivery, this culturally grounded, community-led model of waste minimisation is positioned to be both responsive and enduring for, and in, Te Tairāwhiti settings.

Oritetanga

28. The WMMP process affords an opportunity for localised Mātauranga perspectives (hapū and iwi) on waste to be equitably considered and implemented within a comprehensive environmental framework, alongside other principal strategies within Te Tairāwhiti.

Whakapono

29. The consideration of submissions and incorporation of proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP reflects Council's commitment to meaningful and transparent engagement with mana whenua. Input received through engagement and consultation, including the Mātauranga Māori lens, has informed refinements to the Plan. Incorporating these perspectives strengthens the integration of te ao Māori values and supports a more holistic environmental framework, contributing to long-term cultural and ecological resilience in Te Tairāwhiti.

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

30. Written correspondence was provided to iwi and mana whenua during the development of the Draft WMMP, with follow-up hui undertaken where requested. Feedback received through early engagement informed development of the Draft WMMP released for consultation. Additional feedback received through the consultation process has been considered and incorporated through the proposed amendments outlined in Attachment 1.

31. A Mātauranga Māori lens was applied to the Draft WMMP through engagement with a specialist provider. This input has informed proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP, strengthening alignment with te ao Māori perspectives and supporting more effective partnership with iwi and mana whenua.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

32. Community engagement informed the development of the Draft WMMP through a combination of public and targeted engagement activities.

33. A broad community engagement campaign was undertaken to develop the early engagement draft that was presented in August 2025. This campaign included pop-up sessions, surveys, workshops delivered in partnership with community organisations and online engagement opportunities. This generated substantial feedback, which was analysed and incorporated into the early engagement draft WMMP.

34. Since the August 2025 hui, additional targeted engagement has occurred with waste industry stakeholders, waste network representatives and community organisations active in waste minimisation and resource recovery initiatives.

35. Feedback from these processes emphasised clearer measurable actions, improved accessibility of the document and ensuring that communities could see themselves in the WMMP. In response, the plan format was simplified and streamlined to improve clarity, reduce visual complexity and provide a clearer line of sight between objectives, delivery and the role of communities, businesses and partners.

36. On 12 March 2026, Council approved the Draft WMMP to be released for public consultation under the Special Consultative Procedure.

37. Public consultation was undertaken from 20 March to 23 April 2026.

38. Public consultation was supported by a communications plan using a range of channels to reach the community and stakeholders.

39. This included:
    a. Public notice in the newspaper
    b. Paid social media advertising and social media posts
    c. Media release
    d. Radio advertising and radio interviews across multiple stations
    e. Direct emails to previously engaged stakeholders, including iwi and mana whenua
    f. He Pānui communication
    g. Council website and Participate platform
    h. Antenno post sent to 718 devices.

40. These channels were used to ensure broad awareness of the consultation and provide multiple opportunities for the community to engage and make submissions.

CLIMATE CHANGE – Impacts / Implications - NGĀ REREKĒTANGA ĀHUARANGI – ngā whakaaweawe / ngā ritenga

41. Council's Climate Change Response team supported and contributed to the WMMP review process.

42. Waste management systems can both contribute to, and be impacted by, climate change. Council is working on a Regional Climate Action Plan (RCAP), which comprises two sections: mitigation (emission reduction) and adaptation (response to impacts of climate change).

43. The RCAP aims to reduce carbon emissions from waste and address the effects of climate change, including extreme weather events, flooding, coastal erosion and disruption to transport routes.

44. The WMMP supports this direction by including actions that focus on waste prevention, reuse, recycling, recovery, organics diversion, product stewardship, improved waste data and reduced disposal to landfill. These actions are relevant to reducing methane from organic waste in landfill, reducing emissions associated with waste transport and disposal.

45. The WMMP also supports climate adaptation and resilience through actions relating to rural waste services, emergency and disaster waste planning, legacy landfill monitoring and remediation, resource recovery infrastructure, and long-term residual waste disposal planning.

46. Climate change events such as flooding, cyclones, and coastal erosion can have a direct impact on landfills and waste management operations, including waste collection, transfer stations, material recovery facilities and legacy landfill sites. As the WMMP is implemented, these impacts will be considered and mitigated through future planning, procurement and project delivery.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

47. Sources of investment for implementing the six-year solid waste strategy of Te Tairāwhiti are outlined in the 28 key actions outlined in the draft WMMP document (Attachment 3). However, fixed costings are not included as specific project details will be determined over the six-year timeframe in partnership with key stakeholders and the wider community, with relevance to changing price structures and waste demand. This approach enables meaningful input from both the community and businesses in shaping the design and implementation of the wider work programme.

Legal

48. This report does not give rise to any known or foreseeable legal implications.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

49. The significance of community and regional outcomes is central to the draft WMMP, as clearly reflected in its core objectives and strategic components. This foundation will provide a platform for advancing best practice waste minimisation and management across current, emerging, and future work programmes, including the Council's Long-Term and Annual Plans, regional responses, and sector-specific frameworks.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

50. No major risks have been identified with Council considering and approving the proposed amendments to the Draft WMMP at this stage. The key risks relate to alignment with submission intent, stakeholder perception, and future implementation delivery.

51. There is a risk that the proposed amendments do not fully reflect the intent of submissions or stakeholder feedback. This is mitigated through officer analysis, team review, and incorporation of Mātauranga Māori input to support a balanced and robust set of recommendations.

52. There is a reputational risk if submitters or stakeholders perceive that their feedback has not been appropriately considered. This is mitigated through transparent reporting of submissions, clear articulation of proposed amendments, and providing submitters the opportunity to be heard.

53. Looking ahead to implementation (subject to adoption), delivery of the WMMP over the six-year period may be influenced by factors such as funding availability, infrastructure readiness, market volatility for recovered materials, regional capacity constraints, and the potential for climate or extreme weather events to disrupt services. These risks will be managed through phased implementation, diversified funding approaches, strong partnerships, and ongoing monitoring and review throughout the WMMP period.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
June – July 2026	Incorporate approved amendments into the Draft WMMP and finalise document wording	
27 August 2026	Final WMMP presented to Council for adoption	Amended version

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - Proposed Amendments to Draft WMMP [**26-107.1** - 10 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Submissions [**26-107.2** - 36 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Gisborne District Council - DRAFT Waste Management 28 Pages 16-3-26 FINAL PRINT [**26-107.3** - 32 pages]

Attachment 1: Proposed Amendments to the Draft WMMP 2025–2031

This attachment outlines proposed amendments to the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025–2031 following public submissions, mātauranga Māori feedback and proposed te reo Māori translations. Proposed amendments are in bold. Minor refinements to the proposed wording may be required before the amendments are incorporated into the final WMMP. These refinements will be limited to clarity, consistency and formatting, and will not change the intent of the amendments approved. The final WMMP will be presented to Council for adoption.

Amendment	Page / Section	Current Content (if applicable)	Proposed Amendment	Reason for Amendment
1.	Throughout		• Remove any reference to 'Draft' WMMP • Change 2025 – 2031 to **2026 – 2032** with reference to the WMMP • Add translated action numbering "**Mahinga 1 – 28**" throughout the Action Plan	Ensures the plan is reflective of when adopted Improve consistency and integration of te reo Māori throughout the action plan.
2.	Cover		Add translation: "**Tairāwhiti Parahanga Kore**" beneath "Waste Free Tairāwhiti."	Improve visibility of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
3.	Page 3		Add translation "**Whakarāpopotanga matua**" for Executive Summary. Add translation "**Whakatakinga**" for Introduction. Add translation "**He aha te WMMP, he aha tōna hua**" for "What is a WMMP and why it matters". Add translation "**Ngā tatauranga o Te Tairāwhiti**" for "Tairāwhiti stats". Add translation "**Tō tātau tirohanga, ō tātau uaratanga**" for "Our vision and our values". Add translation"**Tō tātau arotahinga**" for "Our focus". Add translation "**Ka pēhea ngā whakarerekētanga i ngā tau e ono ki mua**" for "What will change over the next six years". Add translation "**He aha te mahere nei ki a koe**" for "What this plan means for you". Add translation "**Ka pēhea tēnei mahere te whakatutuki me te utu**" for "How we will deliver and fund this plan". Add translation "**Ka pēhea tātau te arotake, te ako me te urutau**" for "How we'll track progress, learn and adapt". Add translation "**Te mahere whakatutuki**" for "The action plan".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.

Amendment	Page / Section	Current Content (if applicable)	Proposed Amendment	Reason for Amendment
			Add translation "**Te tēpu whakamahi mahere**" for "Action plan tables".	
4.	Page 4		Add translation "**Whakarāpopotanga matua**" for Executive Summary. Add translation "**Ngā whāinga o tēnei mahere**" for "What this plan sets out".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
5.	Page 5	The first changes will be about clarity and confidence. Information about waste and recycling will become simpler and more consistent, helping people trust they're doing the right thing. Waste services will become easier to use, easier to understand and more aligned across the region	The first changes will **focus on education**, clarity and confidence. **Waste and recycling information will be simpler, more consistent and easier to access. Education will support people to make informed waste decisions and feel confident they are doing the right thing.**	Strengthens education emphasis in response to submissions calling for hands-on, accessible waste minimisation support.
6.	Page 6		Add translation "**Ka pēhea te mahi tahi**" for "How we'll work together."	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
7.		Kaitiakitanga – protecting the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana Manaakitanga – designing respectful, safe and accessible services Whanaungatanga – building strong relationships and shared responsibility Kotahitanga – aligning effort across Tairāwhiti Pono – acting transparently and reporting honestly	Kaitiakitanga **– ensuring we leave** our whenua, awa and moana **better than we found it for future generations** Manaakitanga **–** designing respectful, safe and accessible services **where appropriate** Whanaungatanga **–** building strong relationships and shared responsibility **with mana whenua and communities** Kotahitanga **–** aligning effort across Tairawhiti toward **Tairāwhiti Parahanga Kore** Pono **–** acting transparently and reporting honestly**, and regularly**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations
8.	Page 7		Add translation "**He aha te WMMP, he aha tōna hua"** for "What is a WMMP and why it matters."	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
9.	Page 8		Add translation "**Whakatakinga" for "**Introduction".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP
10.	Page 12		Add translation "**Ngā urupare i puta mai i te uiuinga parahanga**" for "What the whole waste assessment told us".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
11.	Page 13		Add translation "**Kei hea tātau i tēnei rā**" for "Where we are today".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.

Amendment	Page / Section	Current Content (if applicable)	Proposed Amendment	Reason for Amendment
12.	Page 14		Add translation "**Tō tātau tirohanga, ō tātau uaratanga**" for "Our vision and our values".	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
13.		This is not an overnight shift, but a direction we commit to, a set of everyday choices and a standard we hold ourselves to as kaitiaki of this place.	This is not an overnight shift, but a direction we commit to, a set of everyday choices and a standard we hold ourselves to. **(removed 'as kaitiaki of this place').**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations
14.		Our values guide how we move towards that future: Kaitiakitanga asks us to protect the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana – so every major decision and contract considers environmental and cultural impacts, not just cost. Manaakitanga calls us to design services that are safe, respectful and fit for how people actually live – in town and across our rural communities. Whanaungatanga reminds us to engage early and well, co designing with mana whenua, marae, kura and local leaders so solutions are built together. Kotahitanga is aligning effort across Council, communities, operators and industry so we pull in the same direction. Pono is our commitment to openness – reporting progress each year and adjusting when something isn't working.	Our values guide how we move towards that future: Kaitiakitanga **guides us to work with mana whenua** to protect the mauri of whenua, awa and moana – every major decision and contract **will** consider environmental and cultural impacts, not just cost. Manaakitanga calls us to design services that **add real value to our communities ensuring they** are safe, respectful, and fit for how people actually live**, both** in town and across our rural areas Whanaungatanga **determines that we** engage early and well, co designing with mana whenua, marae, kura and local leaders so solutions are built together. Kotahitanga is aligning effort across Council, **mana whenua,** communities, operators and industry so we pull in the same direction. Pono is our commitment to openness – reporting progress each year and adjusting when something isn't working.	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations
15.	Page 15		Add translation "**Tō tātau arotahinga**" for "Our focus"	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.
16.		OBJECTIVE 1 - *Build local solutions that keep valuable resources circulating and reduce harm* We will develop practical options that stop useful materials becoming waste. Early focus areas are organics (food scraps and garden waste) and construction and demolition	OBJECTIVE 1- *Build local solutions that keep valuable resources circulating and reduce harm* We will develop practical options that **prioritise preventing waste, reducing consumption, and reusing and repairing materials**, with early focus on organics (food scraps and garden waste) and construction and demolition materials suited to local recovery.	Strengthens upstream waste prevention emphasis in line with repeated calls to move beyond disposal and recycling. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations

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		materials – both large contributors to what we send to landfill and both suited to local recovery. A regional transfer station and resource recovery facility, designed and delivered with partners, will act as a hub that strengthens local networks, encourages reuse, diversion and reduces reliance on long haul disposal.	A regional transfer station and resource recovery facility designed and delivered with **stakeholders,** partners**, and mana whenua** will act as a hub **to strengthen** local initiatives and networks. **It will** encourage reuse and diversion, **reducing our region's** reliance on long-haul disposal **and avoiding our waste becoming another region's problem.**	
17.		OBJECTIVE 2 - *Make reuse and recovery the easiest choice at every site and service* People should not have to second guess the system. Transfer stations will be designed so reuse and recovery come first, disposal last. Kerbside and drop off services will be managed for reliability and low contamination, with clear expectations and audits embedded in contracts. Product stewardship programmes will be supported to lift recovery of key materials across the rohe.	OBJECTIVE 2 - *Make reuse and recovery the easiest choice at every site and service* People should not have to second guess the system. Transfer stations will be designed so reuse and recovery come first, disposal last. Kerbside and drop off services will be managed for reliability and low contamination, with clear expectations and audits embedded in contracts. **We will also** support product stewardship programmes **and advocate with regional and national partners for stronger packaging reform, right to repair, and producer responsibility, so fewer materials become waste in the first place.**	Reflects public desire for stronger Council advocacy beyond local operations.
18.		OBJECTIVE 4 **–** *Know our numbers and tell our story openly* Good decisions need good information. We will improve data collection and reporting on volumes, material types and contamination. We will measure what matters and publish snapshots that people can follow. Cultural and technical indicators will be codeveloped with mana whenua, so the picture we report matches what people value.	OBJECTIVE 4 **–** *Know our numbers and tell our story openly* Good decisions need good information. We will improve waste data collection and reporting on volumes, material types and contamination. We will measure what matters and publish **progress** snapshots that people can follow, **including where performance is not meeting expectations.** Cultural and technical indicators will be codeveloped with mana whenua, so the picture we report matches what people value.	Reflects strong submission feedback that GDC should hold itself to the same or higher reporting frequency and transparency standards it expects from others.
19.		OBJECTIVE 6 - *Be ready when disruption hits* When Tairāwhiti is hit, it's hit hard. We will define clear pathways for emergency response and disruption waste, including stockpiling contingencies during transport outages. This reduces harm during events and speeds up recovery.	OBJECTIVE 6 - *Be ready when disruption hits* When Tairāwhiti is hit, it's hit hard. We will define clear **disaster waste management pathways** for emergency response and disruption waste, **including household waste, slash, silt, hazardous materials, biosecurity risks and rural isolation. This reduces harm during events and supports faster, safer recovery.**	Adds specificity reflecting post-cyclone concerns and repeated calls for fuller disaster readiness. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations.
20.	Page 16		Add translation "**Ka pēhea ngā whakarerekētanga i ngā tau e ono ki mua**" for "What will change over the next six years." Add translation "**He aha te mahere nei ki a koe**" for "What this plan means for you."	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.

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21.	Page 18		Add translation "**Ka pēhea tēnei mahere te whakatutuki me te utu**" for "How we will deliver and fund this plan." Add translation "**Ka pēhea tātau te arotake, te ako me te urutau**" for "How we'll track progress, learn and adapt."	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP
22.		Each year we will publish a plain-language, community-focused update – a simple dashboard and short narrative showing what has changed, where improvements are being felt and what we need to adjust. We will report on: • Tonnes to landfill and tonnes recovered • Kerbside contamination rates • Illegal dumping trends and hotspot interventions • Access and participation across rural and urban communities • Progress on legacy landfill and contaminated site management • Cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures We will complete a mid cycle check in Years 3–4 to refine sequencing and investment based on what is working. In accordance with the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, this WMMP will be reviewed using updated evidence and community input before the end of the cycle.	Each year we will publish a plain-language, community-focused update **using** a simple dashboard and short narrative showing what has changed, where **progress is being made**, and what needs to adjust. We will report on: • Tonnes to landfill and tonnes recovered • Kerbside contamination • Illegal dumping trends and hotspot interventions • Access and participation across rural and urban communities • Legacy landfill and contaminated site management • Cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures **Operational updates will track delivery across Council-led services, contractors and funded initiatives.** A mid-cycle check in Years 3–4 will refine sequencing and investment. In accordance with the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, this WMMP will be reviewed using updated evidence and community input before the end of the cycle.	Directly addresses concerns around weak internal accountability and inconsistent reporting timelines.
23.	Page 19		Add translation "**Te mahere whakatutuki**" for "The action plan." Add translation "**Te tēpu whakamahi mahere**" for "Action plan tables."	Improve visibility and integration of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP
24.	Page 22	Action 1	Add a column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga Whanaungatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
25.		Action 2	Add a column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga Whanaungatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	

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26.		Action 3	Add a column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	
27.	Page 23	Action 4	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects strong submission feedback that GDC should hold itself to the same or higher reporting frequency and transparency standards it expects from others. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
28.		Action 5 Monitor, evaluate and publicly report on the progress towards the seven objectives Measure: annual report released Council role: Annually assess and report on WMMP objectives .	Action 5: Monitor, evaluate and publicly report on progress towards **delivery of the action plan. Reporting will follow defined quarterly, annual and long term schedules that apply equally to Council services, contractors and priority programmes. We will publish progress against clear targets and timelines, and openly report where performance is not meeting expectations.** Measure: **quarterly snapshot and annual report released** Council role: **Quarterly and** annually assess and report on WMMP **actions** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	
29.		Action 6 Co-plan and develop a regional resource recovery facility, in partnership with relevant stakeholders, to support improved resource recovery outcomes and act as a central hub for the GDC rural waste network. Measure: new facility operating; # rural sites integrated.	Action 6 Co-plan and develop a regional resource recovery facility **and wider recovery network to support reuse, repair, education, community enterprise and rural integration.** Measure: • **Resource recovery facility business case and network plan completed** • **A reuse, repair and recovery facility is operating** • **Rural sites integrated into the recovery network** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	Broadens facility concept to better reflect repeated calls for a regional reuse and recovery network. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
30.	Page 24	Action 7	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga Manaakitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
31.		Action 8	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga Manaakitanga** and **Pono**	
32.		Action 9	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga,Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	

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33.	Page 25	Action 10	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga, Whanaungatanga, Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
34.		Action 11 Provide annual contestable grants to promote or achieve waste diversion, minimisation and/or elimination. Measure: number of projects funded annually, total funds distributed annually, estimated tonnes of waste prevented, reduced or diverted as reported by funded projects.	Action 11: Provide annual contestable grants and **practical support to enable** waste diversion, minimisation and elimination**, including community-led pilots, marae initiatives, school programmes and scalable local innovation.** Measure: • **Annual contestable grants programme delivered** • **Number and diversity of initiatives supported (e.g. community-led, marae, schools, pilots)** • **Evidence of waste diversion, reuse or participation outcomes from funded initiatives, where practicable** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Broadens grants into more visible practical support, reflecting submissions seeking active backing for good local ideas. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
35.		Action 12	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
36.	Page 26	Action 13	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
37.		Action 14 Implement a kerbside collection service incorporating wheelie bins, with provision to introduce an organic collection service where feasible Council role: Review options leading to service establishment Timeline: 4-6 years	Action 14: **Review and** implement kerbside collection service **options, including** wheelie bins **where evidence demonstrates improved diversion, affordability, reduced illegal dumping, and lower contamination**. Provision **will be made** to introduce an organic collection service where feasible. Council role: **Plan, design and progressively implement kerbside collection service changes, including procurement and service model decisions, with organics brought forward as a priority where feasible.**	Brings organics forward to better reflect strong public sentiment that organics should be an early priority, not deferred. Reflects concerns about wheelie bin service not demonstrating improved reduction in waste to landfill.

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			Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono** Timeline: **1**-6 years	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
38.		Action 15	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
39.	Page 27	Action 16	Add column for values**: Kaitiakitanga, Whanaugatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
40.		Action 17	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
41.		Action 18 Establish collaborative relationships with rural communities to deliver upgrades to rural waste services/facilities and implement a minimum of two rural resource recovery initiatives that increase waste diversion Measure: number of initiatives delivered, number of rural service or facility upgrades completed, rural diversion tonnes	Action 18 Establish collaborative relationships with rural communities to deliver upgrades to rural waste services and facilities, and implement a minimum of two rural resource recovery initiatives that increase waste diversion. This will include practical pathways for farm plastics and agrichemicals, along with equitable access to resource recovery. Measure: • Number of number of initiatives delivered • Number of rural service or facility upgrades completed • **Practical recovery pathways established for priority rural waste streams such as farm plastics and agrichemicals** • Rural diversion tonnes Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Responds to recurring rural and farming sector waste concerns. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
42.	Page 28	Action 19	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.

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43.		Action 20 Audit Council offices/sites every two years and implement interventions to eliminate, reduce and divert waste. Measure: actions completed and diversion tonnes. Timeline: Site audits on two yearly rotation	Action 20: Audit Council offices and sites **quarterly, with six-monthly public reporting and an annual performance review**, and **implement** actions to eliminate, reduce and divert waste. **Council will meet or exceed the accountability standards applied across the wider waste system.** Measure: **100% of scheduled audits completed. 100% of identified actions implemented. Volume diverted from Council sites.** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono** Timeline: **Years 1-6**	Aligns Council's own audit schedule with the accountability standards expected across the wider WMMP. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
44.		Action 21	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga** and **Kotahitanga**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
45.	Page 29	Action 22	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga, Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
46.		Action 23	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	
47.		Action 24	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga** and **Kotahitanga**	
48.	Page 30	Action 25	Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
49.		Action 26 Implement waste licensing for operators and collectors as part of bylaw implementation. Measure: Waste licensing framework implemented through solid waste bylaw, number of waste operators and collectors licensed annually.	Action 26 **Ensure waste operators and collectors providing services to Council are appropriately licensed or approved. Contracts will include consistent contract terms, WMMP aligned principles, clear KPIs, and active monitoring and reporting requirements to support safe, compliant and consistent service delivery. Where appropriate, Council will support local providers including marae, hapū and community groups to meet these conditions.** Measure: • **100% of waste operators and collectors providing services to Council hold required licenses or approvals** • **Compliance with reporting, safety and performance requirements embedded in contracts**	Adds balance between compliance and sector capability, reflecting desire for fair but effective regulation. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.

Amendment	Page / Section	Current Content (if applicable)	Proposed Amendment	Reason for Amendment
			• **Improved coverage and quality of waste activity data across Council-delivered services** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	
50.		Action 27 Regularly review Council's capability and capacity for waste minimisation and management functions to align with sector and regional changes. This includes providing professional development, ongoing subscriptions, sector memberships, participation in national policy and legislative processes and participation in relevant conferences. Council role: Undertake reviews of wate team capability	Action 27: Regularly **assess and strengthen** Council's waste minimisation capability and capacity**, including resourcing, skills, systems and partnerships, to enable effective leadership, delivery oversight and monitoring of the WMMP.** This includes providing professional development, ongoing subscriptions, sector memberships, participation in national policy and legislative processes, and participation in relevant conferences. Council role: Undertake reviews of waste team capability **and capacity** Add column for values: **Manaakitanga Whanaungatanga**, **Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Strengthens confidence that Council is sufficiently resourced to lead implementation. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
51.	Page 31	Action 28 Develop and implement a long term residual waste disposal and resilience strategy that secures appropriate in-region and out-of-region landfill access, manages transport and cost risk, and evaluates future regional disposal options. Council role: Lead	Action: No change Council role: Lead **the development and implementation of a long-term residual waste disposal and resilience strategy, including securing disposal access and managing transport and cost risk.** Add column for values: **Kaitiakitanga**, **Manaakitanga Kotahitanga** and **Pono**	Strengthens confidence and provides clarity of Councils role in developing a long term residual waste disposal and resilience strategy. Reflects mātauranga report recommendations and demonstrates how values apply.
52.	Back		Add translation: "**Tairāwhiti Parahanga Kore**" beneath "Waste Free Tairāwhiti".	Improve visibility of te reo Māori throughout the WMMP.

Attachment 2: Submissions Received

This attachment contains copies of submissions received on the Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025–2031.

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
Yes, I support				
8784	Apr 23, 2026, 01:14 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	Please see attached submission
8782	Apr 23, 2026, 12:41 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	
8780	Apr 22, 2026, 11:25 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	See attached.
8765	Apr 01, 2026, 03:08 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	Previously I commented on the draft document, and I am pleased to see that some recommendations have been reflected in this plan. New issues for consideration are the vastly increased diesel cost of transferring rubbish out of district. I have ongoing concerns related to disposal of insured household contents following floods: many of these can be reused or repaired and the incentive to replace creates a perverse incentive. The disposal of silt and slash should be planned ahead and thought of as a potential resource rather than as waster where possible (biochar, clean fill etc) Some consideration could also be given to the disposal of animal carcasses during outbreaks - H5N1, Foot and Mouth etc although this might be included in other planning processes?
8759	Mar 28, 2026, 04:30 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	
8758	Mar 28, 2026, 01:02 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	
8747	Mar 20, 2026, 03:52 PM	No thanks	Yes, I support	
Yes, with some suggested changes				

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8787	Apr 23, 2026, 05:03 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	I support the draft plan vision and values and generally support the objectives. I support the good work the community groups that help divert some reuseable items like SPCA/Habitat and the Environment Centre and they could benefit from Council support. Can there be an objective focused on how barriers can be managed for our community? Also perhaps an objective focused on incentives particularly to drive change and assist with potential barriers? Potential solutions could include; A resouce recovery facility where you can buy reuseable items? A site where you could seperate and currently find hard to dispose of like, batteries, polystyrene, soft plastics, building materials, car engine oil and parts, electrical items. Home composting incentives to assist with food waste? Working with producers and food packaging companies to redesign packaging? Working with other regions to bring back the bottle and can recycling initiatives where you can return bottles and receive some $?

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8785	Apr 23, 2026, 02:42 PM	Yes please	Yes, with some suggested changes	Please see attached submission from Federated Farmers.
8783	Apr 23, 2026, 12:57 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	
8781	Apr 23, 2026, 10:12 AM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	Kia ora, I feel the WMMP has decent goals and vision but insufficient tangible outputs. I prefer "We will do X" over "Investigate" and "Work with X to improve Y". Council should be pro-active and take the lead. For example: mandatory, standardised, refillable containers would be better managed at a national level - but perhaps we could launch a pilot reuse program with local drinks producers (e.g. Sunshine and various vineyards). Ditto for durable takeaway containers with centralised wash and redistrubution facility. Action 10 / Right-to-repair needs national mandates - but a concrete local action might be council sponsoring a repair cafe. Action 6 is similar - is council creating a recovery facility? Importantly - council must step up with a geological and sea-level-rise robust landfill and work to move old sites as inundation risks increase. I ticked "no" on presenting as I don't think I'll "move the needle" - but I'm happy to participate in a discussion or forum if there's interest.
8778	Apr 22, 2026, 05:46 PM	Yes please	Yes, with some suggested changes	please read my submission

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8774	Apr 16, 2026, 09:42 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	More immediate response needs to happen. Wheely bins are THE main way of collecting waste around the world with documented reduction if landfill and improving recycling outcomes. One of the highest contributors is organic materials that can easily and quickly be addressed with introduction of a collection for a composting facility via a bin. Also, changing from a general waste rates to a more user based system e.g. large quantity producers pay more than light producer. Or a weight based bin collection with bar codes on the bins and scales in the collection trucks. This would encourage more recycling since heavy landfill waste cost more than recycling does. We as a family for example never use up our bag stickers because we're not producing as much as a family of four. The main focus should be on quickly implementable waste reductions and collection options instead of long term education initiatives. Most people in the region don't think what will happen in 3-6 years time.
8773	Apr 16, 2026, 06:22 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	I support the concept but there should be some real action e.g. if food/compost makes up approximately 20% of our rubbish, then why is there not a plan to introduce compost bins and an associated plan to treat inorganic matter as a raw material for a council compost business? There is a lot of talk and consultation but I would like to see: 1. To introduce organic waste collection within x years 2. To take the management of our waste away from Waste Management 3. To increase fines for illegal dumping by x% 4. To introduce rubbish, recycling & organic wheelie bins by 2027

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
				(for example) The plan isn't bold enough and reads as the 'same old cautious council approach'
8771	Apr 16, 2026, 03:54 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	There are three suggestions/comments for your consideration (based on experience in Gisborne and Dunedin): 1 Recovery facility (e.g. Action 6/7) Such facilities can include a drop-off for items no longer used, which can be on-sold and on-used. Funds raised can support operation of such a unit. Dunedin example includes tools, clothing and other textile items, furniture, used building materials (e.g. windows, doors, screens). 2 Household waste (e.g. Action 14) Colour coded wheelie bins (weekly or fortnightly pick-up) provide simple assistance in managing waste. Dunedin service includes weekly green waste (green lid); fortnightly recycling (yellow lid) and waste (red lid) (latter two alternate fortnights). 3 Wastewater treatment Gisborne has a critical need to deal appropriately with wastewater/sewage. This is a priority: current treatment continues to damage the wider environment (public places, rivers, beaches) and continue with negative publicity at least locally and nationally.

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8770	Apr 13, 2026, 10:17 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	Good to see Cultural Indicators are in the action plans - also a measure (quality of soil/air/water/etc) of pre action plan and every quarter throughout the period to ascertain whether there needs to be improvements/adjustments along the way with the final measure published along the way. To keep our own rubbish - not to give it away - not to send it elsewhere - we keep all of our rubbish and reuse - recycle -disposal by hiding does not mean it is gone - we have learnt that with land fill - to work towards no land fill disposal. Incentives to reusing rubbish - competitions within streets of resilience and reuse. Support our metal disposal services and building demolitions who provide and show they are reusing - recycling - provide incentives to initiatives of reusing metal - for art displays - playgrounds - exercise parks - new builds to have a percentage of recycled materials. Businesses to support initiative/educational grants for reuse of bi products - with a goal of zero waste.

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8763	Mar 30, 2026, 08:42 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	Rubbish Stickers should be cheaper - households to purchase at a better rate, or possibly more (another 6) each quarterly. More bins for recycling ie wheelie bins to seperate out recycling and compost. I have seen a good system working in New Plymouth DC. At the moment we separate out our recycling it goes altogether into one truck, paper, cans and glass. What is the point of the consumer recycling. More education or compulsory bi-yearly education for recycling for all ratepayers/tenants and may be a small bonus in rates. Fining illegal dumpers as we ratepayers arenâ€™t seeing for those that do dump illegally are getting fined or charged hopefully it could become as a deterrent. The rivers to be dredged or the like and to be stripped of any woody debris. Riverside homes to be checked 1/4ly of any wood, grass clippings or green waste to be made to tidy up those sections so when it rains it doesnâ€™t wash into our waterways and onto our beaches as itâ€™s not always forestry slash.

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8757	Mar 27, 2026, 04:32 PM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	I would like to see waste disposal to be free to reduce the amount of illegal dumping that blights our district. It seems few if any people are caught or penalised for this. If necessary a few people should be employed to sort the waste and separate that which is recycleable. Also I would like to know why the collection points for soft plastic are at our supermarkets and not in our recycle bins. This material, which forms a significant part of household waste, is genuinely recycled. Could the council not find out where it goes and arrange to collect and send it. I would also like the council, through your illustrious body of councils, lobby to reduce the over-packaging of consumer goods in stores and supermarkets. The level of some of this packaging is ludicrous and makes up huge amount to household waste
8752	Mar 25, 2026, 11:28 AM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	If the largest amount of waste generated is from food scraps and compost, why is the first action point not initiating an organic collection facility where this waste can be generated into compost for households/industry or turned into bioenergy. This seems like a fast way to improve outcomes. The action plan focuses a lot on discussions but there is not a lot of action.

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8749	Mar 23, 2026, 09:12 AM	No thanks	Yes, with some suggested changes	I think the overall approach is good, but the action plan has too many actions. Some of these things look like BAU and I think could be pulled out of the "Action Plan". You're going to do those things anyway. The Action Plan should be pithy and focussed. I think it would be very easy to complete many of the "actions" and make no difference to the current situation. eg Actions 17, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, and 27. Also I don't understand why you are proposing to introduce wheelie bins. Pretty much everywhere they get rolled out they increase the amount of waste to landfill - cos it's so easy and cheap to fill your bin, particularly with garden waste which currently isn't much of the waste stream. Where wheelie bins have been introduced garden waste disposal into wheelie bins increases - the opposite of what you want to achieve.
No, I don't support				
8786	Apr 23, 2026, 02:59 PM	Yes please	No, I don't support	
8779	Apr 22, 2026, 07:00 PM	No thanks	No, I don't support	Your proposal is very pretty with lots of infograms, tables, charts and colours but there's no real "guts" to your documentation. There's nothing in there like: We propose to limit household waste collection to 1 bag a week. We propose more composting workshops We are committed to 20 workshops and week to demonstrate turning pallets into garden beds, or chicken coops We propose to limit industrial waste collections to a max of x kgs by 2027 We shall add a dedicated soft plastics recycling medium There are no real ideas of HOW you'regoing to accomplish waste management and minimisation. There's a study of a town overseas whose local body provided free

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
				chickens to their town and workshops to build coops, the town reduced landfill, increased gardens and the town people got free eggs. That one initiative created food sovereignty, waste minimisation, community engagement and at minimal costs to the local body. Just a thought. Pallets are free wood here too.
8777	Apr 22, 2026, 03:55 PM	No thanks	No, I don't support	
8776	Apr 21, 2026, 04:32 PM	No thanks	No, I don't support	Skim reading this proposal, doesn't clearly outline anything. Give us bins. You would save nearly 2000 black bags going into the landfill. People wouldn't be illegal dumping household waste, they would have a bin for it. Have people apply for compost disposal alternatives, as the new builds won't be able to do composting. More informative classes that people can attend, to get their waste down, ie cooking, composting, tips on reducing plastic waste. Consumerism is out of control, it should come down to companies aswell who take responsibility, not just the buyers.
8775	Apr 21, 2026, 08:34 AM	No thanks	No, I don't support	Too close to housing waterways and marae
8766	Apr 08, 2026, 06:02 AM	No thanks	No, I don't support	The GDC should put, the sewage in the ground, yes no flash toilets, deposit collect, other waste should be filled made solid and than liquidfied and used as fuel and maybe the deposit to.A.N. na mihi

Contribution ID	Date Submitted	Do you wish to present your views on the proposal to Council in person?	Do you agree to adopt the draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031	Please tell us why
8756	Mar 27, 2026, 03:47 PM	No thanks	No, I don't support	Overall the ambition of the whole plan is very low with no published targeted reduction and diversion rates. There are over 20 action points of which most are monitoring and reporting. They are very vague. Only the establishment of the resource recovery centre is a real meaningful change. Hopefully that will be given the support and finances it needs. Most other things are aspirational without targets and no consequences if not achieved. The organic waste seperate recovery, which is a key diversion and really should be a no brainer and priority is still stated as a potential rather than a certainty. The whole waste stream should be removed from the private contractors who are incentivised to move as much garbage around and be put back into council hands. The waste stream can be better managed from source to end this way.

Attached Submissions

Submission ID: 8783

Submission Type: Individual

This region has been far behind the times in terms of best practice for waste management and legacy landfills.

I feel this reset needs to position Tairāwhiti at the leading edge, if not the country leader when it comes to waste minimisation.

This starts through education and having contractors who actual care about doing the right thing and who are punished financially if they do not. So for Action 9 the audit for a new contractor needs to be on a quarterly basis until they prove themselves.

Considering the amount of compostable waste your records show can be diverted away from landfills, action plan 14 is not strong enough : it should say that within Gisborne and Ruatoria, kerbside collection will have a wheelie bin for compostables.

Action 20 should be carried out on a more frequent basis. Not fair on others if GDC will audit them every 1/4 or 6 months and itself every 2 years. You need more frequent audits to show progress is being made. Waiting 2 years is too long.

Action 25 – this needs to start immediately and not be pushed down the road for 4-6 years. Considering Tairāwhiti does not have it's own landfill and the distance landfill currently has to travel for disposal the economic and environmental cost of this should make finding a suitable location highest priority.

Action 27- I think these seems very internal, and why would the ratepayers care about this one? I would expect we were already doing this

Submission ID: 8784

Submission Type: Organisation

Submission on the Tairāwhiti Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2026-2031

Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to submit on the Tairāwhiti Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP).

Enviro NZ Services Limited (Enviro NZ) is a national waste service provider. Enviro NZ has 64 operating sites throughout New Zealand. Sites include collections depots, materials recovery facilities, transfer stations, cleanfills, landfills and solid and liquid hazardous waste treatment facilities. Enviro NZ operates approximately 600 vehicles and has around 1,100 staff.

Within the Gisborne region, Enviro NZ operates commercial waste management services from a depot at 70 Innes Street, Awapuni, Gisborne. It also operates a regional waste treatment facility at this location which dewaters certain liquid wastes including organic, inorganic and oily water.

The Vision and Values

As a general comment, Enviro NZ supports the key vision of the WMMP, namely:

● *We are working together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti – a circular way of living where we prevent waste at the start, keep resources in use and return organics to the whenua.*

Objectives

Enviro NZ supports the WMMP objectives and comments on particular objectives as follows.

In terms of **Objective 1**, Enviro NZ has experience in partnering with Councils to deliver regional waste infrastructure. We work collaboratively with the Councils in building or expanding transfer stations and organic processing solutions that achieve landfill diversion. Enviro NZ would be interested in exploring further our shared objectives and areas of mutual interest with the Council, including recovery of value from diverted waste to landfill.

In relation to **Objective 2**, design of the system is critical but waste diverted from the waste stream cannot be successfully recycled and reused if contamination rates in a load are too high. Contamination leads to a lower quality of material for recycling, resources must be spent removing the contamination, or disposing the contaminated material to landfill altogether. Therefore, Enviro NZ considers that education and audits are crucial to achieve better reuse and recovery.

Ensuring that waste management providers are part of stewardship schemes ensures that effective schemes will result. We note that e-waste, whiteware goods and aerosol cans are prime candidates for product stewardship in addition to tyres, for which a scheme has begun. We consider that lithium-ion batteries should be included in a product stewardship scheme. Lithium-ion batteries are the cause of increased numbers of fires at landfills and transfer stations and within collection vehicles.

With respect to **Objective 6**, collaboration with private waste operators is an important part of defining how to deal with disaster waste. Collaboration can reduce the response time for mobilisation of resources to commence clean-up activities, ensure that disaster waste management is undertaken in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, and help contain recovery costs.

Enviro NZ agrees with the principles for providing waste education at **Objective 7**. As detailed above, education is critical to achieving better waste outcomes.

The Action Plan

In respect of the actions to achieve the proposed objectives, these are generally supported. We comment on specific actions as follows.

Action 2: Engage with and educate high non-household waste-generating sectors (e.g., industry, construction and demolition, retail and service sectors) to reduce waste at source and increase diversion from landfill.

Enviro NZ has significant experience in helping industry find solutions for waste diversion. Development of new diversion options will require new infrastructure with long lead times to establish sites meeting stringent environmental standards. Local initiatives may be small in scale and economically doubtful.

Action 3: Plan, deliver and evaluate targeted education and engagement initiatives in partnership with key community stakeholders to increase participation in waste reduction and recycling best practice Enviro NZ has led targeted education and engagement of waste issues

in the community. We have considerable experience in education campaigns related to waste services delivery and would be happy to share our experiences with Council.

Action 6: Co-plan and develop a regional resource recovery facility in partnership with relevant stakeholders to support improved resource recovery outcomes and act as a central hub for Council's rural waste network.

Enviro NZ considers that the Council should work closely with private waste providers when developing options for a new facility. Enviro NZ has worked with other local authorities to design and construct appropriate facilities and is available to evaluate the viability and effects of different options for a facility.

Action 10: Increase recovery of key materials via established product stewardship programmes that provide design-to-disposal support and education.

Enviro NZ supports this action however, as above, ensuring that waste management providers are part of stewardship schemes ensures that effective schemes will result.

Action 14: Implement a kerbside collection service incorporating wheelie bins, with provision to introduce an organic collection service where feasible.

Enviro NZ has considerable experience in implementing Council wheelie bin collections, including organics and welcomes collaboration on this action point.

Action 16: Work with internal and external partners to integrate sustainability goals, waste minimisation practices and efficient waste services into the planning and design of new multi-unit/ inner city and commercial developments.

Enviro NZ strongly supports a waste standard in the District Plan for high density residential and commercial developments. Without such a planning standard space is not allocated to waste bins at the consenting stage and unsatisfactory and unsafe on-site waste provision results. Enviro NZ has collaborated with other Councils in developing a suitable standard that has ensured the adequate location and sizing of waste management areas in multi-unit/commercial developments.

Action 21: Investigate and develop options and protocols for problematic materials and emergency wastes (disaster debris, woody, hazardous, spills, water-based recovery)

Developing these options need to recognise the possibility of large quantities of material (including putrescible materials) requiring disposal over a short time frame to protect public health. These materials can have a significant impact on the ability of regional landfills to meet both the disposal imperative and comply with their resource consents.

Hazardous wastes require specialised infrastructure and trained and certified staff to deal with the significant safety and environmental hazards that these wastes present. New facilities have long lead-in times with onerous resource consent challenges.

Enviro NZ has a Technical Services division which focusses on dealing with hazardous waste.

Action 26: Implement waste licensing for operators and collectors as part of bylaw implementation.

Enviro NZ supports developing a Solid Waste Bylaw and the licencing of waste collectors and operators. Enviro NZ suggests that initial consultation with commercial waste providers be undertaken to ensure that unintended consequences do not result as a result of any proposed bylaws. For example, ensuring that the waste types controlled by the Bylaw are standardised terms that are known to the waste industry nationally will assist in providing a workable set of rules.

Summary

In summary, Enviro NZ generally supports Council's proposals in the draft WMMP. We would be happy to make available the knowledge and experience of our staff to assist the Council in undertaking investigations and assessments and in developing new waste services and facilities in the future.

Submission ID: 8785

Submission Type: Organisation

Proposed Waste Minimisation and Management Plan 2026-31 Gisborne District Council

The Gisborne-Wairoa Province of Federated Farmers welcomes this opportunity to submit on the draft Waste Minimisation and Management Plan for 2026-31.

Federated Farmers acknowledge any submissions from individual members of our organisation.

Farmers repair, re-use and recycle farm waste as much as they can out of necessity because they are some distance from shops and transfer stations. They also do it because it makes economic and environmental sense. Examples of materials commonly re-used on a farm that are discarded in urban areas include: old tyres, plastic containers, sacks, wire, posts, timber etc. Farmers are renowned for their ability to fix or build things utilising second-hand materials that are already available on the property.

Improved access to resource recovery options

We note that the plan promotes local recovery solutions instead of exporting waste out of the region, which is currently costly and inefficient. The plan sets the groundwork for expanded recovery and drop-off options that farmers could access locally.

For agriculture, this is relevant to:

- Plastics (silage wrap, animal health product containers, seed and feed bags)
- Treated timber and fencing waste.

As for farm plastic collection and recycling services Plasback and Agrecovery, Federated Farmers supported the introduction of proposed regulations for a national scheme for the recycling of agrichemicals, agrichemical containers and farm plastics at the end of their useful life. We submitted on the Government consultation of this in June 2025.

In our 2025 submission, we acknowledged the current limitations of what Agrecovery has been able to achieve as a voluntary scheme. We have observed that engagement with producers and farmers has plateaued in recent years, and that a free-rider problem has arisen because some plastic

producers have not been part of the scheme. As such, Federated Farmers agreed that a national scheme making participation mandatory on plastics producers is an important step towards further increasing the collection of farm plastics from more farming properties.

Federated Farmers supported the introduction of regulations applying to the sale of agrichemicals sold in containers and drums of 1000L or less, plastic bale wrap and silage sheet, small plastic bags of 40kg or less when full containing farm inputs and supplements, as well as bulk woven polypropylene bags over 40kg when full of farm inputs.

Federated Farmers also supported the setting of a product stewardship fee on the collection of identified farm plastic products. This is seen as necessary to ensure the national scheme can expand service coverage, particularly to regions like Tairawhiti.

Although free for farmers to use if they are recycling containers from a participating brand owner, AgRecovery does require the farmer to take the containers to a collection site. There are currently four Agrecovery sites in Tairawhiti, all of these are located in Gisborne city. This lack of coverage over the hinterland will severely hinder many farmers' ability to return their plastic containers.

Plasback has been criticised by farmers for its costs, both in collection fees and effort required. In 2018 the cost of a bin was $560 + GST, $51 for a pack of three liners. Now it $925 +GST for a bin and $94 for a three-pack of liners. It is also a challenge to clean the wrap and roll it up. Baleage wrap could be an interesting study in unintended consequences. With many regional councils restricting silage pits, baleage is becoming more popular. Baleage wrap is single use only and becomes waste once taken off a silage bale.

Repost has been a great new idea for re-using ex-vineyard posts for farm fencing. This service diverts these tanalised posts away from waste streams and into a lower cost option for farmers. Repost's generous donation of 12,400 recycled posts to farmers recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle was greatly appreciated and a big boost to farmer knowledge of this service.

Council assistance around education and enabling private businesses to participate as collection points in these rural recycling ideas is necessary for these services to thrive for the benefit of farmers.

Submission

1. Federated Farmers supports Action 10 which seeks to increase recovery via established product stewardship programmes that provide design-to-disposal support and education. We agree with the Council's role being co-ordination and support.

2. That Council supports Agrecovery expanding its collection sites beyond Gisborne city.

Rating for Waste Management

Federated Farmers supports the targeted rates methods that Gisborne District Council uses to fund solid waste services. We support the Waste Management Charge rate, which is a flat fee targeted at properties where waste and recycling collection is available. We also support the Rural Transfer Stations rate which also appears to be a flat fee targeted at properties that are within a 15km radius of the rural transfer stations.

Targeted rates are an excellent method of ensuring those ratepayers that directly benefit from a service, are the ones paying for it. Flat fees ensure that the equal benefit aspect is funded by an equal charge, rather than a property-value based rate. Every property within the 15km radius has an equal opportunity to use the rural transfer stations and therefore a flat fee is appropriate. Flat fees are also not vulnerable to property value fluctuations. We strongly encourage the Council to retain targeted flat fees as a method of funding these services.

We wonder how the *Rural Transfer Stations* rate will be affected by the increasing fuel costs for cartage to the Waiapu landfill or into Gisborne city of the waste and recycling collected at these facilities. We also note that the 2024 Long Term Plan states there are 8 rural transfer stations (Tolaga Bay, Tokomaru Bay, Te Puia Springs, Tikitiki, Waiapū, TeKaraka, Whatatūtū and Matawai) yet the 2024 Gisborne District Council Waste Assessment report by Eunomia Research & Consulting states there are 9 stations.

Solid Waste					
Commercial Recycling Charge	Within scheme recycling collection area, being non-residential area within the CBD who have elected to receive the service.	5 & 6	7	Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a Rating Unit	1,477
Refuse And Recycling - Gisborne District	Within scheme refuse collection areas - Residential properties in Gisborne City and environs and Ruatōria. See map at end of this section.	5 & 6	7	Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a Rating Unit	2,157,071
	Within scheme refuse collection areas - Residential properties in Gisborne City and environs and Ruatōria.	5 & 6	7	Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a Rating Unit	35,591
Rural Transfer Stations	Within 15km radius scheme area as defined on a map.	5 & 6	7	Separately Used or Inhabited Part of a Rating Unit	506,176

Submission:

3. Federated Farmers supports the targeted flat fees per SUIP as transparent and equitable methods to fund solid waste disposal.
4. That the Council ensures the dollar amounts of these fees are clearly itemised and reported in the Annual and Long Term Plans, and rates demands.

Regulatory impediments to rural waste disposal

Resource management regulations can often impede farmers' ability to dispose of their waste on farm. The Council needs to decide if it wants to reduce rural waste going to landfill and permit farmers to burn or bury their daily organic waste, or to restrict farmers' on-site disposal and divert more waste to landfills.

Federated Farmers notes that organics were the third biggest waste stream at the Gisborne transfer station, contributing 1,976 tonnes per year which is 14.3% of the total waste volume. Although we recognise that much of this organic waste specific to Gisborne transfer station will be of urban origin, we think there is an opportunity to review resource management regulations that apply to farm organic waste.

Regulations need to enable farmers to burn ordinary organic waste like felled trees and prunings on their properties rather than having overly strict rules for nuisance effects like odour that make this disposal method impractical. Household waste mixed with farm organic waste should not prevent farmers from burning as a permitted activity.

Biosecurity outbreaks like the kiwifruit Psa (Pseudomonas syringae pv. actinidiae) or other emergency situations like a weather event will necessitate on-site burning of debris plant material, and state of emergency declarations often aren't rapid enough or do not lift regional plan regulations for the general population in order for legal on-site burning to occur. Federated Farmers saw a six week lag after Cyclone Gabrielle until the Orders in Council issued by parliament lifted council burning restrictions for plant debris that had plastic debris like bale wrap or irrigation hose tangled in it. The highly pathogenic avian influenza HPAI H7N6 strain outbreak in Otago in December 2024 was contained on one property so that carcass disposal was into a landfill, but on-site disposal will be an option for other outbreaks of livestock disease.

For a region like Tairawhiti with limited contained landfill options for a wide geographic area, it is likely that on-site disposal of biosecurity material will be necessary. Objective 6 needs to consider biosecurity emergencies as well as natural disaster events.

Submission:

5. Federated Farmers urges the Council to assess regulatory restrictions for on-farm waste disposal, and reviews whether these achieve the aim of diverting landfill waste streams.
6. That Objective 6 also considers regulatory impediments to waste disposal during biosecurity emergencies, as well as natural disaster emergencies.

Illegal dumping

Federated Farmers shares the Council's disappointment that illegal dumping has jumped from 44 tonnes in 2018 to 1175 tonnes in 2025, and that cleaning up last year's illegal dumping cost ratepayers $600,000.

We note that the majority of illegally dumped rubbish was after hours outside the Gisborne city transfer station. However, our members have also experienced illegal dumping onto or next to their rural properties. This includes rubbish, organic material such as garden weeds, cars, as well as feral cats. Federated Farmers appreciate that animal dumping is out of scope for this plan, but wanted to highlight this for your information. On the whole, farmers have found the actions of the Council commendable when illegal rural dumping is brought to its attention. However a delay with removal of cars has been observed, which is a concern when the farmer needs to repair boundary fences.

Freedom camping is also a source of illegal rubbish dumping in rural areas. Specific information for freedom campers about public toilet locations and rubbish disposal is needed.

Rural illegal dumping is more dispersed than urban, harder to detect quickly, and more likely to occur on private land which shifts clean-up responsibility onto landowners. Greater enforcement of illegal dumping at the gates of the Gisborne transfer station must not have the inverse effect of pushing illegal dumping into rural areas that have no surveillance.

Submission:

7. Federated Farmers supports Action 12 to deliver targeted engagement, monitoring and enforcement to prevent and reduce illegal dumping, on the condition that this action also applies to rural illegal dumping as well as urban

8. More specific information for freedom campers about waste disposal and public toilets is needed for the Council's tourism website, which will assist with Objective 7.

Submission ID: 8777

Submission Type: Individual

Waste Management & Minimisation Plan 2025-2031,

I am wavering between the tick boxes “support with some suggested changed” and “don’t support”. There are some good aspects, but overall, I think the Draft Waste Management & Minimisation Plan needs a change of emphasis, clearer actions, and it should have been developed through a partnership with mana whenua, so in its current draft I don’t support.

The Draft WMMP lacks clear strategies to achieve a “waste-free Tairāwhiti”. The plan still emphasizes disposal and recycling, rather than reducing waste and promoting repair and reuse among communities, rural areas, businesses, and households. I support the recommendation from Tairāwhiti Environment Centre to initiate a Waste Advisory Forum with Māori partners to develop long-term intergenerational solutions to achieve a “waste-free Tairāwhiti”.

Some specific comments on the Draft Plan:

1. On page 13, correct the “Tonnes of illegal dumping sent to landfill” graph’s y-axis values from 10,000, 12,000, 13,000 to 1,000, 1,100, and 1,200.

2. Sending unrecoverable waste from Te Tairāwhiti to the Waikato landfill is in my view unacceptable. We must reduce this waste stream immediately and eventually manage it entirely within our own rohe. While action 28 may address this, it does not clearly focus on enabling class 1 landfill facilities in Te Tairāwhiti, which we need to plan for.

3. Disaster waste needs more attention; Council should create a Disaster Waste Management Plan, including guidance and resources for recovery efforts and funding. The clean-up following Cyclone Gabrielle generated vast waste with minimal recovery of items.

On page 15, this sentence is not clear, "We will define clear pathways for emergency response and disruption waste, including stockpiling contingencies during transport outages." Does this mean, "We will establish clear plans for dealing with waste generated by flood, tsunami, or other natural hazard, and by the emergency response and disruption, with contingency stockpiles for transport outages."? This sentence could be written more clearly if I have understood it correctly.

4. Hazardous agrichemicals are missing from the draft plan; set up a collection depot and coordinate regular Agrecovery visits so rural communities have safe disposal options.

5. Climate impacts are under-emphasized; waste drives emissions through transportation, landfill gases, manufacturing, and food waste. One of the actions in the plan should be to reduce the climate impact of management of waste in Te Tairāwhiti, and to measure that we are achieving this.
   The climate impact of waste management can be reduced by:
   - Reducing organic waste going to landfills;
   - Planning for a regional class 1 landfill;
   - Limiting products that generate waste (e.g., packaging);
   - Encouraging regional self-sufficiency;
   - Cutting food waste at all stages;
   - Promoting buying durable, reusable items over disposables.

   Clarify the alignment between the Draft WMMP and the Council's broader climate response strategy for Te Tairāwhiti.

6. Comments on Action Plan:
   - Pause Action 6 until partnership with mana whenua is established; their engagement is crucial for resource recovery success.
   - Action 8: change the kerbside rubbish limit to 2kg/week/household with the Council sticker system; the current 5kg/bag policy isn't reducing waste. Waste Management NZ Ltd prefers the use of wheelie bins because this may reduce injuries for their staff, but wheelie bins will increase the amount of kerbside rubbish. Consider shared wheelie bins between a group of households.
   - Many actions rely on the community; ensure they receive adequate resources and financial support.

- Allocate more Council resources and staff to waste management and community partnerships to ensure meaningful progress is achieved through the actions in this draft plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Draft WMMP.

Submission ID: 8780

Submission Type: Individual

Submission on Waste Minimisation Plan GDC 2026

Thank you to all those involved in producing this document and plan. I think it looks thorough and will help move Tairawhiti towards zero waste. I think it is extremely important for our region to move as swiftly as possible towards this goal. We just cannot continue to transport waste out of town at the present rate. The increasingly unpredictable weather patterns makes this even more tenuous.

I would like to see the following prioritized in the plan as I think they are the low hanging fruit and so would make the biggest difference.

1. Resource Recovery Centre.
   I think this is the most important action in the plan. Am I interpreting it correctly that it will be completed within 3 years? We need to make it as easy as possible for people to recycle and I think having one centre to which the bulk of unwanted household items can be taken is key. Such a centre also provides opportunities to educate and inspire the public so that instead of throwing away, items can be repurposed.
   I have visited several such centres around the country, the nearest in Whakatane. I don't understand why it has taken so long to get one started in Gisborne. Raglan started theirs in the late 1980s and employs 26 people. Their annual profit is$1.2 million. Therefore you don't need a large population to make it viable. Waste can be a resource. I think Tairawhiti could gain much from the experience of other centres.

2. Food scraps.
   Given that 22% of Tairawhiti waste to landfill is food, we need to reduce this urgently. While kerbside recycling of food scraps has been trialled in other cities, it has only had 50% uptake. (? Due to the "yuk" factor). I gather it is to become mandatory for each city to do this so plenty of education around this will be needed. Continue to encourage gardening and composting (enviroschools and community gardens). Fostering neighbourhood groups where keen gardeners and composters can benefit from food scraps of others nearby. (I have heard of this working in a Wellington suburb) is another possibility.

3. Education.
   This is emphasized in the WMMP but I think it needs to be practical and clear information. Many people want to do the right thing re waste disposal but don't know how to go about it. It needs to be made easy to know where items can be taken. A one stop shop at least for household "waste" like the resource recovery centre, would make it more likely to be used and fit for purpose. in the longterm.

   I look forward to our progress to zero waste

Submission ID: 8778

Submission Type: Organisation

*"Mana whenua and hapū guide how it's shaped and delivered,
bringing mātauranga Māori and tikanga into the decisions that affect our whenua, awa and moana. Across the rohe, communities, marae and kura are already leading para kore initiatives, composting, repair and reuse programmes, and local education – showing what a waste-free future can look like in practice" Draft WMMP 2026*

As a theme for waste minimisation para kore doesnt feature in our townships where local and Gisborne supermarkets continue to ply a world of plastic packaged food stuffs and general household items to consumers in town and up the coast that fill our landfills and trucks with waste to landfill (that include greenwaste, general domestic waste) and recyclables heading out of region for dumping or recycling?

No Support from Council for Waste Minimisation programmes such as Para Kore's 'He Mana to te Kai' have not realised the potential for local grown and captured food that enhances the mana, mauri, tapu, wairua and the well being of manawhenua, hapu and all other residents in Te Tairawhiti whanui tonu. Limited funds sourced elsewhere for this programme are set to end in June 2026.

Kaitiakitanga, Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga, Kotahitanga and Pono that this council values to guide their response to an ever increasing waste stream are just dreams on a plan when untreated waste water during rain events continue to flood council systems requiring a downstream discharge to Tangaroa.

This analogy reenacted monthly points to Councils waste minimisation efforts that are squarely placed in level 4 of the Waste Heirarchy. As in the rain events, upstream waste events further up the heirarchy go unchallenged with consequences felt right across the region. A feeling of hopelessness, "not my problem", "someone else will fix it" pervades the psychy of the community.

<u>Now lets look at the objectives:</u>

Objective 1: *We will develop practical options that stop useful materials becoming waste.*

MANAAKITANGA The rest of this objective still point to level 4 of the heirarchy. There is nothing here upstream to cutoff, to redirect the waste away from Te Tairawhiti, empowering our community with tools to individually make change for its own waste stream that affects the collective.

Objective 2*: Make reuse and recovery the easiest choice at every site and service*

Waste Minimisation Education for all the operators of the Te Tairawhiti transfer stations who are the on the ground educators facilitating waste minimisation, not just a job or a business. **PONO** needs to be felt here if whanau are going to engage from a place of knowledge and support when visiting these sites to minimise, reduce, reuse and recycle their waste and someone elses scores that lie in wait for a home.

Objective 3**: KAITIAKITANGA** *Heal and protect our whenua through responsible care of past and present sites*

As I am the hapu rep for the Tokomaru Bay Legacy Landfill, this is definately a bottom of the waste stream heirarchy level 6 programme to try and heal our whenua, seas and ourselves from historical thinking about waste. Its becoming a money pit and a potential to gobble up well meaning facilitators who are trying to survive this avalanche with limited funding, no records and blind faith in what is underground. If we can achieve what our hapu voted for 'complete removal" it will be marker for the other historical landfills on the coast beside our waterways.
A significant push needs to happen to move our people up the waste heirachy because why should we remove these landfills when community continue to waste?

Objective 4*:* ***PONO*** *Know our numbers and tell our story openly*

Good data timely well presented within a waste minimisation programme will affect the hearts of our community to engage

Objective 5: **WHANAUNGATANGA** *Back our people to lead change*

Yes, Para Kore and many other programmes engaging our people in to the multi faceted waste stream that flows through the land be divert, be reimagined and supported to create cohesion and hope for a waste free Te Tairawhiti

Objective 6: **KOTAHITANGA** *Be ready when disruption hits*
if we could translate the mahi, support and aroha shared during rain events for a waste free Te Tairawhiti we would be well placed to make a heartfelt contribution for our whenua

Objective 7: **PONO** *Educate well and enforce fairly*

Yes good education from the heart is key, facilitation not direction is what is required to achieve meaningful change for minimising waste and lookinga after our environment

Submission ID: 8786

Submission Type: Organisation

OVERALL FEEDBACK

Tairāwhiti Environment Centre Position

While we acknowledge the improvements made in this draft WMMP, Tairāwhiti Environment Centre (TEC) does not consider the plan, in its current form, to meet the standard of a truly collaborative regional waste plan for Tairāwhiti.

In particular, the absence of meaningful partnership with mana whenua in both planning and decision-making limits the ability of this plan to deliver equitable, effective, and enduring outcomes for our region.

This is most clearly demonstrated in the decision to proceed with the Lytton Rd Resource Recovery Centre without the support of mana whenua.

Tairāwhiti Environment Centre (TEC) identified four high-level themes for our region's waste minimisation priorities 2025-2031, these are as follows:

Uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi

To develop a collective vision and make important regional decisions around waste, we cannot recommend enough the need for dedicated and meaningful collaboration with Māori. Engagement and consultation often invite people into systems that have already been designed. Collaboration, particularly when grounded in Te Tiriti, requires being in relationships. As an example, we recommend initiating a Waste Advisory Forum with Māori partners to develop long-term intergenerational solutions to achieve "Waste Free Tairāwhiti".

Invest in Reduce or Reuse

Highlight and prioritise investments and actions that reduce and reuse waste over actions that are focused on recycling and disposal. Our region needs innovative and inspirational initiatives that demonstrate how we can avoid waste materials. Invest in local capability to deliver zero waste services.

Improve Data and Measurement

We strongly recommend prioritising robust, consistent data collection to address significant gaps and better inform regional waste decisions. Start with a consistent reporting framework from all disposal services and integrate a citizen science approach to waste auditing that engages our communities in the issues and solutions.

Develop a truly regional waste plan

Beyond meeting waste-levy funding requirements, the WMMP has the potential to be a collaborative regional waste plan. Clear identification of partner agencies, stronger prioritisation and greater focus on implementation would help realise this. Without shared governance, co-design, and clearly defined regional partnerships, this WMMP cannot function as a truly collaborative regional plan. Instead, it remains a Council-led document with limited mechanisms for collective decision-making.

DETAILED FEEDBACK

Governance and Partnership Foundations (Priority Area)

1. Te Tiriti o Waitangi and relationships with mana whenua

Partnership with mana whenua is key to achieving positive regional outcomes in waste planning and infrastructure development, especially significant in Tairāwhiti where 56% of the population identify as Māori, the highest proportion of any region in Aotearoa *(Census 2023)*.

The Resource Recovery Centre development in Gisborne City has the potential to be transformational for how our region engages with waste. Waste is both a social and systems issue. Relationships are key to driving the behavioural changes we need to address our waste problems. The decision to proceed with the Lytton Rd site for the Resource Recovery Centre (Pg 189), without the support of mana whenua, sets a concerning precedent for how the Council intends to develop waste solutions. TEC has seen examples of what can be achieved when a Council partners with mana whenua in the development of Resource Recovery Centre and the positive impacts of this collaboration for the local community. Because of this, **TEC does not support the decision to proceed with a RRC at the Lytton Rd site without the support of mana whenua.** This decision is not an isolated issue, but reflects a broader pattern of limited partnership with mana whenua within the current planning and decision-making approach.

In developing the WMMP, GDC states there was “limited formal engagement with Mana Whenua partners to date” (Council meeting agenda document from the 12th of March , pg155). From TEC’s perspective, this is not in alignment to Te Titiriti o Waitangi, or creating the collaboration parameters to achieve strong waste outcomes. From TEC’s perspective, this approach does not yet give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in either process or outcome. It is much harder for Tairāwhiti Environment Centre, to know that we are working towards the same goals.

The current draft WMMP has a significant lack of Te Ao Māori in the document due to this limited engagement, which cannot be fixed by one consultant providing the “Te Ao Māori lens” on the plan. The WMMP vision (page 14) talks of co-design with mana whenua. We don’t see how GDC plans to give effect to these words in current practice or future planning.

Recommendation: Develop a waste advisory forum, firstly with Māori partners, and then potentially invite other key champions and partners (e.g. Tairāwhiti Environment Centre, Trust Tairāwhiti) to create a space for healthier relationships, collaboration and shared planning. TEC would welcome the opportunity to contribute to or support this forum.

2. Absence of a long-term strategy

The current draft WMMP does not provide insight into a long-term strategy to achieve “Waste Free Tairāwhiti”. We celebrate this ambitious vision, however our community needs more details about how this could be achieved. The 6-yearly WMMP are the stepping stones to enact a long-term strategy. Some indication of what is planned in the next WMMP for example, would build reassurance that we have a long-term plan as a region (and why we are focusing on the current priorities). The waste advisory forum would be the appropriate space to work together on a shared long-term vision and strategy.

In the same vein, we also need a Resource Recovery Centre Network Strategy to guide the overall outcomes that we are hoping to achieve with our resource recovery infrastructure. Instead of simply upgrading the transfer stations, what are the long-term goals for these key spaces within our communities and how can they develop from being a transfer station to a significant part of community enterprise and resilience within each township. The strategy will need to carefully consider engagement, design and procurement, to achieve long-term goals. Auckland Council’s Resource Recovery Centre Network Strategy provides a good example.

Operational Input

3. Significant Data Gaps

While quality data has been identified as an issue, there are no details around what the current data limitations are in the WMMP. There is no data included from the nine rural transfer stations, Class 1 landfill (Tonlyn) or Class 3-4 (Matokitoki) in the WMMP. **383kg of waste per person** (Page 12) is therefore misleading. We recommend that a section is added highlighting data limitations and how these effects good decisions (Objective 4).

4. Objectives

A commitment to designing zero-or low carbon solutions is missing. This could fit into Objective 1, by adding in a sentence 'Design infrastructure and services for minimal fossil fuel dependency.'

Objective 2: Recommend adding 'Transfer stations will be designed so reuse comes first, recycling next and disposal last. Options will be investigated for Transfer Stations to be transformed into community hubs for resources (like compost), repair (parts and tools) and enterprise (adding value to materials).

5. How will we deliver and fund this plan (pg 18)

There is no mention of collaboration with other agencies (only mentions cross-council collaboration) which is essential to achieving long-term regional outcomes. Council is not expected to manage our waste issues or achieve "Waste Free Tairāwhiti" on their own.

6. How we'll track progress, learn and adapt (pg. 18)

Recycling and disposal services have received a disproportionately large share of investment across central and local government. In alignment with the principles of the plan, we need to invest in actions that reduce waste and promote reuse. We recommend reporting against the waste hierarchy so we can see where the actions and investment are directed (i.e. reduce, reuse, repair, recycling, disposal).

We recommend reporting on these additional areas:

1. Update on actions and associated measures.

2. Update on Objectives (on-track, pivots etc.).

3. Report on investment received.

7. Actions

We feel the following is missing from the Actions Section:

a. Actions are named; there are measures of success, but they do not contain the numbers that the Council is aiming for. How does the WMMP know it is successful if there are not defined numbers of what success looks like?

For example (but not limited to):

Action 22: Ensure Council waste management and minimisation service contracts are effectively managed, monitored, audited, and reviewed to meet performance and compliance requirements. Measure: number of audits completed and KPI compliance

What number are you aiming for with the number of audits per year?

Action 24: Build and strengthen inter-regional relationships to align waste reduction initiatives and pursue collaborative opportunities with other councils. Measure: number of joint initiatives implemented and shared standards adopted.

How many relationships indicate success?

b. **Action 1:** Recommend focusing on building the capability of local providers to deliver services and education (rather than out of region). For instance, for data measurement, develop local waste auditing capability through training and regular practice.

c. **Action 14:** This locks us into a wheelie-bin solution which may not be the best option when analysed against other priorities with long-term wellbeing.

d. Construction and Demolition is responsible for approximately 50% of overall disposal volumes (across Class 1-5 facilities) in Tairāwhiti. Because the sector is responsible for such significant volumes, it would seem fitting to have a targeted standalone action in the WMMP which includes the following:

- Improve data collection across the sector.
- Develop an action plan to address volumes and infrastructure gaps in collaboration with a Construction Industry Advisory Group.

TEC is committed to working alongside Gisborne District Council, mana whenua, and other regional partners to support the development of a truly collaborative, effective waste system for Tairāwhiti.

We see this WMMP as a key step to strengthen the foundations for long-term partnership and shared decision-making across our region.

Ngā mihi

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mihi
Acknowledgements

Ki ngā ringa manaaki maha kua tākoha mai ō rātau māramatanga, hei āwhina, hei tohutohu, hei tautoko i tēnei mahere. E kore e mutu ngā mihi ki a koutou katoa.

To the many generous hands who have offered their understanding to help, advise and support this plan. We cannot thank you enough.

Contents

Executive summary

Tairāwhiti is a region where people and place are woven together. How we deal with waste shapes that connection – the health of our whenua, awa and moana, the wellbeing of our whānau and the legacy we hand to those who come after us.

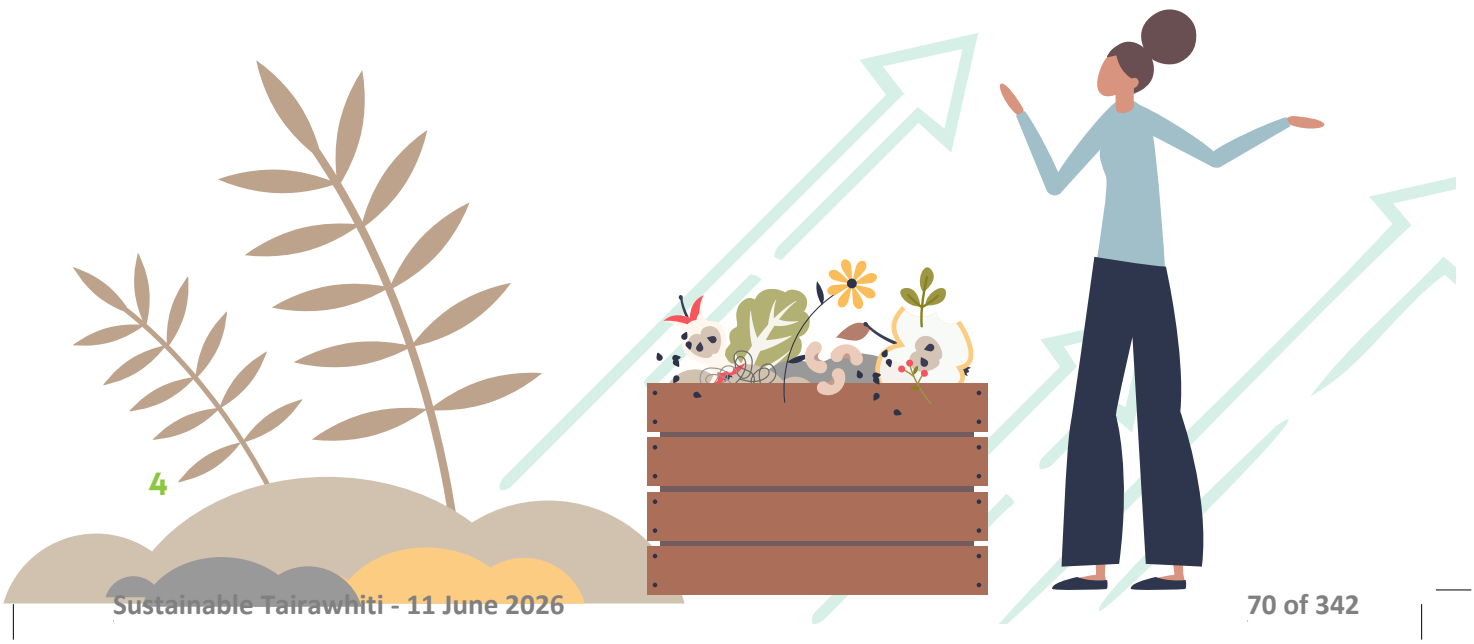
Right now, our waste system isn't keeping pace with what our region needs. Waste to landfill has increased while recovery has declined and illegal dumping has risen sharply over recent years. Most of our rubbish and recycling still travels out of the region to be sorted or disposed of, which adds cost and emissions, and makes us vulnerable when transport routes are disrupted. Legacy landfills continue to need monitoring and remediation, with priority decisions ahead for sites such as Waiapu and Tokomaru Bay. Rural communities face extra barriers – distance, fewer options and the real cost of doing the right thing.

Across Tairāwhiti, people are already showing what a waste-free future can look like. Marae, kura, community groups and local businesses are running composting workshops, repair and reuse initiatives and local salvage efforts. Our job is to support and join up this mahi, making the right thing the easy thing – at the kerbside, at the gate and at every transfer station across the region.

What this plan sets out

This plan brings together what we know, what our communities have told us and what our whenua is showing us. It sets a clear direction for the next six years – guided by kaitiakitanga and by the need to protect the health of our whenua, waterways and communities.

A Waste Management and Minimisation Plan (WMMP) is required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, but in our region it also represents a collective shift – from managing waste at the end of the line to preventing it in the first place, recovering what still has value, reusing where possible and reducing the long term impacts on people and place.



This plan explains where we are now, where we want to be by 2031 and the actions we will take to get there. It outlines how Council, mana whenua, communities, local businesses and waste operators will work together to make practical, lasting change across the rohe.

This plan also sits within the national direction, with our focus areas and actions aligning with the Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy and its five national outcomes.

What will change over the next six years

Over the next six years, this plan will help reshape how we deal with waste in Tairāwhiti – in practical ways that reflect care for people, place and future generations.

The first changes will be about clarity and confidence. Information about waste and recycling will become simpler, more consistent and accessible, helping people trust they're doing the right thing. Waste services will become easier to use, easier to understand and more aligned across the region.

Emphasis will shift to reuse, recycling and recovery, and less to disposal. Materials that still hold value will be better supported to stay in circulation, reducing what goes to landfill and strengthening local resource recovery over time.

There will be a stronger, more coordinated response to illegal dumping. Alongside cleaning up affected sites, the approach will focus on preventing dumping in the first place – improving access to services, providing clear pathways and responding earlier where issues emerge. Education, enforcement and community action will work together to protect whenua, waterways and shared spaces.

Across the region, new ways of reducing waste will be explored and tested. This will build on the leadership already shown by marae, kura, community groups and businesses, recognising that many of the solutions already exist here. What works best for Tairāwhiti will guide what grows.

Rural communities will be better supported, acknowledging the extra challenges distance, access and transport create. Longer term planning will also look to reduce reliance on out-of-region disposal and strengthen the resilience of the waste system, especially during major weather events and disruptions.

Progress will be tracked and shared as the plan moves forward. By 2031, our region will be diverting more, wasting less and protecting the health and mauri of our whenua and waterways. Together, these changes will add up to a waste system that is easier to use, fairer across rural and urban areas, and aligned with the values of Tairāwhiti.

How we'll work together

Reducing waste in Tairāwhiti is a shared responsibility and lasting change will only happen if we work together – across communities and generations.

This plan is guided by values that are deeply rooted in Tairāwhiti:

Kaitiakitanga – protecting the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana

Manaakitanga – designing respectful, safe and accessible services

Whanaungatanga – building strong relationships and shared responsibility

Kotahitanga – aligning effort across Tairāwhiti

Pono – acting transparently and reporting honestly

These values shape not only what we do, but how we do it. They remind us that caring for our whenua, awa and moana is inseparable from caring for our people, and the choices we make today shape the legacy we leave behind.

Council will continue to provide core services, invest waste levy funding, support education and compliance and plan for the future. Mana whenua will help guide the design and delivery of solutions, bringing mātauranga Māori and place-based knowledge into how waste is managed across the rohe.

Communities, marae, kura and local organisations will continue to lead action on the ground – reducing waste, recovering resources and supporting behaviour change in ways that reflect local realities. Businesses and waste operators will work alongside Council and communities to reduce waste at source, support reuse, improve recovery and deliver services that are efficient, safe and environmentally responsible.

We'll work in the open, sharing progress and learning as we go. Some changes will happen quickly, while others will take time to design and deliver well. Throughout, we'll pilot, adapt and build on what works, keeping our community informed and involved.

By working together in this way, we can move steadily toward a waste-free system that reflects the values of Tairāwhiti – one that strengthens community, protects the environment and supports a more resilient future for those who call this place home.
Together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.

1. Introduction

To the many hands and hearts who care for Tairāwhiti, who uphold the wellbeing of our people and whenua, this plan is written with you and for you.

Our region stretches far and feels the distance. We are shaped by our coastlines, rivers and mountains, and by the people whose lives are woven into them. This plan acknowledges the responsibility we carry together – to care for Tairāwhiti, to reduce harm and to protect the mauri of our whenua for those who will come after us.

Who this plan is for

This plan is for everyone. It's for households and whānau, for marae, schools and kura, for community groups and local organisations, for businesses and industry, for waste operators and service providers, and for Council staff whose choices and actions shape our system every day. It's written in plain language so everyone can see themselves in the path forward – knowing where they fit, what they can expect and how they can contribute.

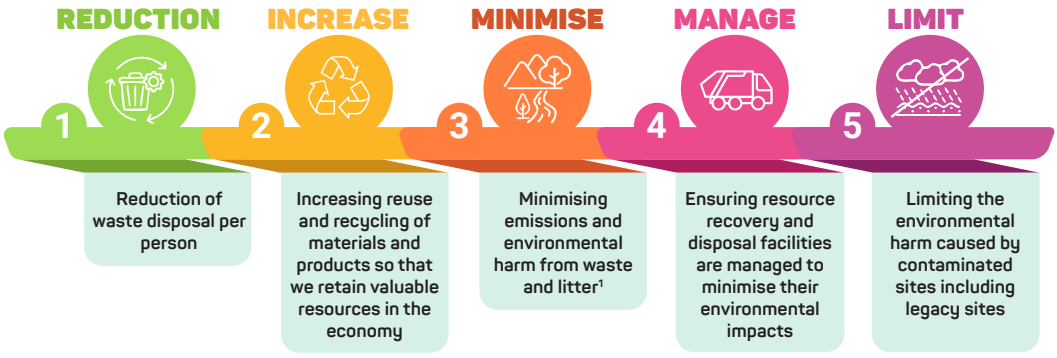
2. What is a WMMP and why it matters

A Waste Management and Minimisation Plan is required under the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, which asks every council to reduce the harm caused by waste and to use resources more efficiently.

In Tairāwhiti, this plan is also a commitment to kaitiakitanga – caring for the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana – and to the relationships that connect people and place. A clear plan helps us send fewer useful materials to landfill, keep costs steadier over time, lower the risks when natural disasters or road closures hit, and better protect our environment and communities.

The Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy

The Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy sets the national direction for how Aotearoa reduces waste, keeps resources in use and minimises harm to people and the environment. It outlines five outcomes for the motu:



These outcomes shape the system we work within. Our WMMP aligns with this strategy by focusing on practical changes that reduce waste, lift recovery, return organics to the whenua, improve site management and reduce the harm caused by illegal dumping and legacy landfills. Our action plan shows how our local priorities contribute to these national goals.

The waste hierarchy

The waste hierarchy is a nationally recognised framework that guides how waste should be managed. It asks us to avoid waste where we can, extend the life of what we already have, return materials to circulation and only as a last resort dispose of what cannot be recovered or reused.

Who is part of the plan

This plan belongs to all of us. Mana whenua and hapū guide how it's shaped and delivered, bringing mātauranga Māori and tikanga into the decisions that affect our whenua, awa and moana. Across the rohe, communities, marae and kura are already leading para kore initiatives, composting, repair and reuse programmes, and local education – showing what a waste-free future can look like in practice.

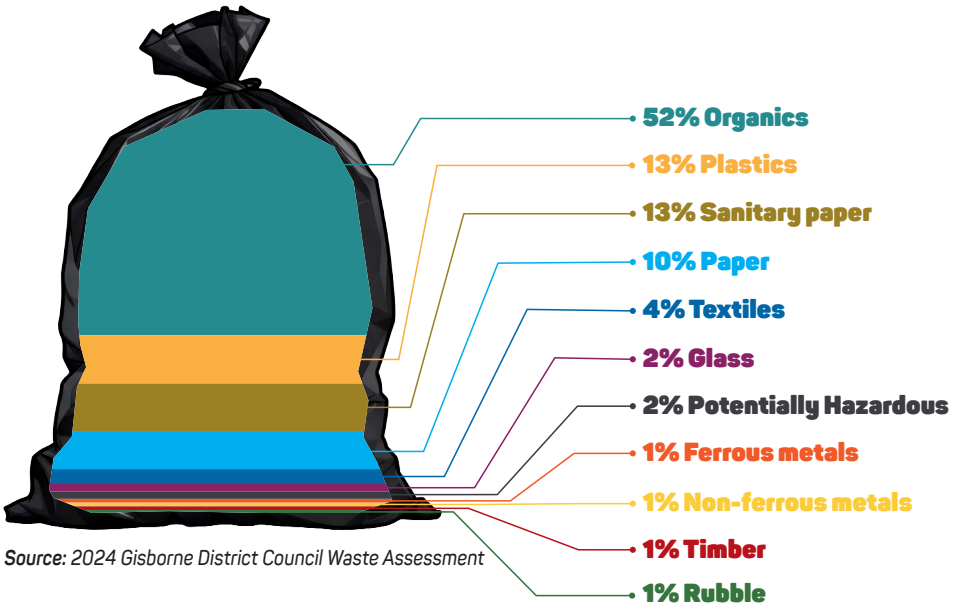
Businesses and industry, including the high volume construction and demolition sector, play an essential role in reducing waste at its source and keeping valuable materials in circulation. Waste operators provide the everyday services our region relies on and work alongside Council to reduce contamination and improve recovery.

As Council, we bring these threads together – providing core services such as kerbside recycling and refuse collection for households in Gisborne and Ruatorea, overseeing nine rural transfer stations, monitoring and maintaining legacy landfills, and supporting the safe disposal of wastewater treatment sludge. We invest waste levy funding, set clear standards through contracts and bylaws, and plan for the future so the whole system moves in the same direction. Central government agencies, including the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) and the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), set the national direction and regulatory settings we work within and offer funding opportunities to support innovation.

How evidence shapes this plan

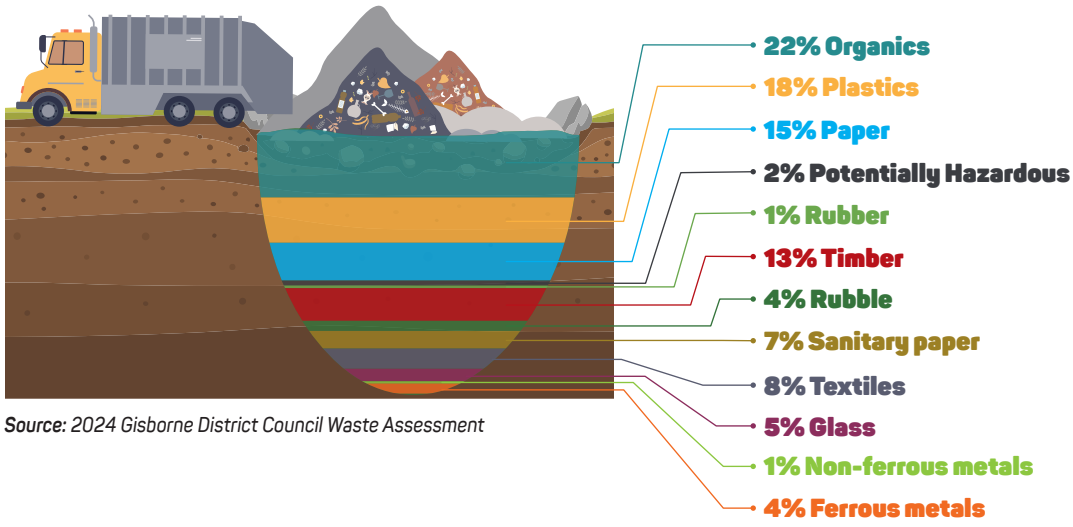
This WMMP is grounded in our Waste Assessment – prepared in accordance with sections 50 and 51 of the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 – which analysed our region's waste system and highlighted the trends and challenges we need to address. Increased volume of waste to landfill, declining recovery, a sharp increase in illegal dumping and clear opportunities for processing and disposal of organics and construction materials all point to where our effort is most needed and guide the mahi ahead.

What's in our kerbside rubbish?



Source: 2024 Gisborne District Council Waste Assessment

What are we sending to landfill?



Source: 2024 Gisborne District Council Waste Assessment

What the whole assessment told us...

356km to landfill

Our waste travels about 356 km to reach Tirohia Landfill

20,000 tonnes

Tairāwhiti sends around 20,000 tonnes of waste to Class 1 landfill each year

60%
divertible

About 60% of a typical rubbish bag could be kept out of landfill

383kg
per person

Our landfill waste per person is lower than the national average of 685 kg

22.5%
organics

Nearly a quarter of landfill waste is food and garden material

1175 tonnes dumped

Illegal dumping has jumped from 44 tonnes in 2018 to 1175 tonnes in 2025

56% **business waste**

Businesses generate over half of the general waste in our region

17.9%
plastics

Plastics make up 17.9% of waste going to landfill

38%
recycling

Recycling makes up 38% of what's collected at kerbside

9 rural
transfer stations

Council manages nine rural transfer stations and 26 legacy landfills

3. Where we are today

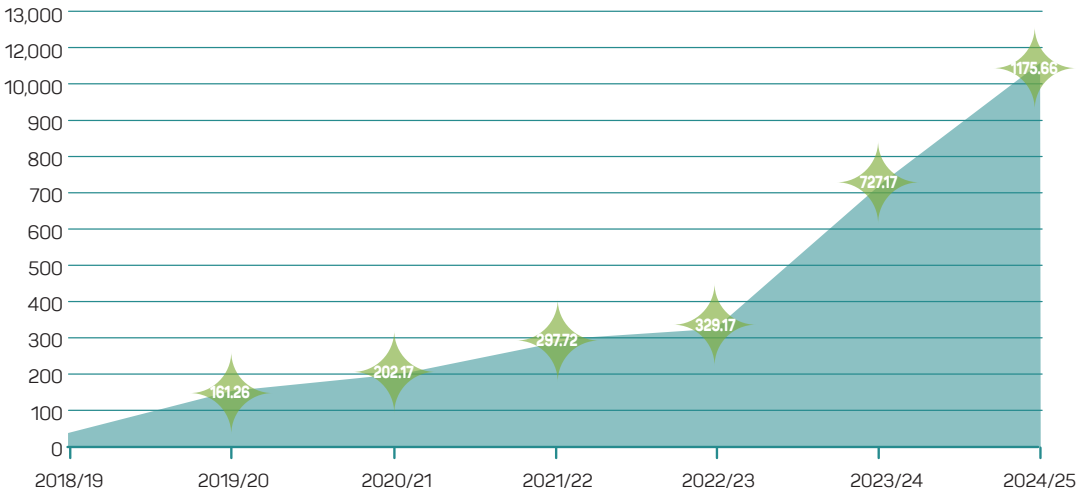
What our whenua and our people are showing us

The system we rely on has not kept pace with what our region needs.

Most kerbside and transfer station materials are consolidated locally, then transported out of Tairāwhiti for sorting or disposal. Those long journeys add cost and emissions and make us dependent on open roads. When severe weather closes routes, the whole system is placed under pressure. Recent severe weather events have shown how important it is to have clear, agreed pathways for managing disaster and emergency waste, so recovery can happen quickly and with less harm to people, whenua and waterways.

Over recent years, waste to landfill has increased, recovery has declined and illegal dumping has risen sharply – from 44 tonnes in 2018 to 1175 tonnes in 2025. These trends tell us we must change course. A large amount of what we send to landfill still holds value – in our kerbside rubbish, nearly 40% is organics by weight.

Tonnes of illegal dumping sent to landfill



We also carry responsibilities from our past. Confirmed and suspected legacy landfills and historic waste sites across the rohe require ongoing monitoring, maintenance and in some cases, remediation. Decisions lie ahead for priority sites like Paokahu and Waiapu, and there is planned remediation work at Tokomaru Bay for the legacy landfill beneath the transfer station. This mahi is about preventing further harm.

Even with these challenges, the direction ahead is already being modelled in our own communities. Across the rohe, marae, kura, community groups and local operators are running composting programmes, repair and reuse initiatives, salvage efforts and other practical ways of keeping resources in circulation. Local businesses are also trialling new approaches that reduce waste and lower costs. Our role now is to connect and strengthen this mahi – making the right choice the easy choice at the kerbside, at the gate and at every transfer station across Tairāwhiti.

4. Our vision and our values

How we move together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti

We are working together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti – a circular way of living where we prevent waste at the start, keep resources in use and return organics to the whenua.

This is not an overnight shift, but a direction we commit to, a set of everyday choices and a standard we hold ourselves to as kaitiaki of this place.

Our values guide how we move towards that future:

Kaitiakitanga asks us to protect the mauri of our whenua, awa and moana – so every major decision and contract considers environmental and cultural impacts, not just cost.

Manaakitanga calls us to design services that are safe, respectful and fit for how people actually live – in town and across our rural communities.

Whanaungatanga reminds us to engage early and well, co designing with mana whenua, marae, kura and local leaders so solutions are built together.

Kotahitanga is aligning effort across Council, communities, operators and industry so we pull in the same direction.

Pono is our commitment to openness – reporting progress each year and adjusting when something isn't working.

5. Our focus

To turn intent into action, we will focus on seven clear objectives. They reflect the values beside and provide the organising spine of this plan. Every action we take sits within these objectives.

OBJECTIVE 1 – Build local solutions that keep valuable resources circulating and reduce harm

We will develop practical options that stop useful materials becoming waste. Early focus areas are organics (food scraps and garden waste) and construction and demolition materials – both large contributors to what we send to landfill and both suited to local recovery. A regional transfer station and resource recovery facility, designed and delivered with partners, will act as a hub that strengthens local networks, encourages reuse, diversion and reduces reliance on long haul disposal.

OBJECTIVE 2 – Make reuse and recovery the easiest choice at every site and service

People should not have to second guess the system. Transfer stations will be designed so reuse and recovery come first, disposal last. Kerbside and drop off services will be managed for reliability and low contamination, with clear expectations and audits embedded in contracts. Product stewardship programmes will be supported to lift recovery of key materials across the rohe.

OBJECTIVE 3 – Heal and protect our whenua through responsible care of past and present sites

We will monitor, maintain and, where needed, remediate legacy landfills and other historic waste sites to prevent harm – making clear decisions on priority sites and reporting progress to the community. Sites will be managed in ways that protect environmental and cultural values.

OBJECTIVE 4 – Know our numbers and tell our story openly

Good decisions need good information. We will improve data collection and reporting on volumes, material types and contamination. We will measure what matters and publish snapshots that people can follow. Cultural and technical indicators will be co developed with mana whenua so the picture we report matches what people value.

OBJECTIVE 5 – Back our people to lead change

Change happens when people can see themselves in it. We will support marae, kura, businesses and community groups with education, small grants and practical help to reduce waste at source and champion local solutions. We will make space for co-design and co-delivery and share stories of what works so good ideas spread.

OBJECTIVE 6 – Be ready when disruption hits

When Tairāwhiti is hit, it's hit hard. We will define clear pathways for emergency response and disruption waste, including stockpiling contingencies during transport outages. This reduces harm during events and speeds up recovery.

OBJECTIVE 7 – Educate well and enforce fairly

We will invest in plain language education that people can trust and act on, and we will support it with fair, visible enforcement where needed. The focus is on preventing problems, not just responding to them.

6. What will change over the next six years

Change will happen in stages over the life of this plan – starting with getting the basics right and strengthening the information and partnerships people rely on, then progressing to rural service upgrades and local recovery options as readiness and investment allow.

As this plan is delivered, people will notice simple, consistent information about what goes where – and why it matters. Transfer stations will be laid out so recovery is the easy, obvious choice. Rural communities will see upgrades and new recovery initiatives designed together with local leaders. The approach to illegal dumping will become more coordinated and preventive, backed by early intervention where harm is occurring. Local options for organics and construction and demolition will be piloted and scaled, building confidence and capability across the rohe. Each year we will publish a clear, plain language update showing progress and where we will adjust – including cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures.

7. What this plan means for you

A waste-free future depends on all of us and this plan sets out what you can expect – in your home, your community and your mahi – as we move together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.

Households and whānau

Clearer kerbside information and easier access to do the right thing. As organics options develop, more can return to the whenua instead of going to landfill.

Marae, kura and community groups

Support to run para kore, composting and repair programmes – with practical help and access to small grants so local solutions can grow.

Rural communities

Upgrades to transfer stations and new recovery initiatives co-designed with local leaders so doing the right thing is practical and fair across the rohe.

Businesses and industry

Targeted support to reduce waste at source, lower costs and keep valuable materials in circulation through recovery networks and product stewardship.

Waste operators

Clear service expectations, contamination auditing, and implementing a licensing framework to recognise good practice and lift consistency.

8. How we will deliver and fund this plan

Funding approach

Delivery will be supported by a mix of waste levy funding, rates and user charges, and external grants for larger projects. We will continue an annual contestable community fund that supports local projects to prevent, reduce or divert waste, with simple reporting that shows results. Investment will be phased so early wins happen while larger pieces – such as infrastructure and licensing – are designed, tested and assessed.

Contracts, performance and licensing

Contracts will reflect recovery first design and clear performance expectations, with audits and contamination tracking built in. Licensing of operators and collectors through developing a solid waste bylaw will lift visibility and encourage consistent, safe practice across the system. We will publish service reliability, diversion and contamination trends each year so people can see how the system is performing.

Capability and governance

Inside Council, we will build capability and align this plan with the organisation's climate response, reviewing resourcing each year so delivery keeps pace with the plan. Cross council collaboration will support emissions reduction from waste handling and disposal.

9. How we'll track progress, learn and adapt

Each year we will publish a plain-language, community-focused update – a simple dashboard and short narrative showing what has changed, where improvements are being felt and what we need to adjust.

We will report on:

- Tonnes to landfill and tonnes recovered
- Kerbside contamination rates
- Illegal dumping trends and hotspot interventions
- Access and participation across rural and urban communities
- Progress on legacy landfill and contaminated site management
- Cultural indicators developed with mana whenua alongside technical measures

We will complete a mid cycle check in Years 3–4 to refine sequencing and investment based on what is working. In accordance with the Waste Minimisation Act 2008, this WMMP will be reviewed using updated evidence and community input before the end of the cycle.

10. The action plan

This action plan sets out the specific steps we will take, who is involved, how progress will be measured and when each action will happen.

It includes work that is already underway, work that will start early in the plan and work that will follow once pilots prove effective.

Our action plan also aligns with the Government's waste and resource efficiency strategy, and we will track our progress against its five national outcomes as part of our annual reporting.

How to read the action plan

The action plan sets out the practical mahi we'll carry out over the next six years. Each row describes a piece of work, and the columns show how it connects to the direction of this plan and how it will be delivered.

Action – what we'll do and what success looks like.

Objective – which of our seven focus areas the action supports. These numbers refer to Objectives 1–7, which set the direction for how we will reduce waste, recover more, protect our whenua and support community led change.

Government outcome – how the action aligns with the national waste and resource efficiency strategy. These reflect the five national outcomes: reduce, increase, minimise, manage and limit.

Council role – the part we'll play in delivering the work.

Funding option – how the work may be funded.

Years – when the work will begin and whether it continues across the life of the plan.

Together, these columns show how each action supports our direction and plays its part in working together towards a waste-free Tairāwhiti.

Action plan...

Action plan...

Action 1

Establish and maintain collaborative partnerships with mana whenua, community groups, social enterprises, businesses, industry and local providers to deliver locally led waste minimisation, recovery and education initiatives that move material up the waste hierachy.

Measure: number of education sessions delivered annually, annual diversion tonnes, number of active partnerships and number of marae/hapū engaged annually.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5		Co-ordinate and support	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 2

Engage with and educate high non-household waste-generating sectors (e.g., industry, construction and demolition, retail and service sectors) to reduce waste at source and increase diversion from landfill.

Measure: annual tonnes diverted.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 5		Co-ordinate and support	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Introduce Years 1-3 Ongoing

Action 3

Plan, deliver and evaluate targeted education and engagement initiatives in partnership with key community stakeholders to increase participation in waste reduction and recycling best practice.

Measure: participation rates and diversion outcomes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5, 7		Lead in partnership with key community stakeholders	Levy	Introduce Years 1-4 Ongoing

Action 4

Continue to support waste reduction education and initiatives in schools (e.g., via Enviroschools and other community and Council-led initiatives).

Measure: Number of schools participating in Enviroschools and annual diversion projects completed.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5, 7		Lead and support in conjunction with other waste reduction educators	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 5

Monitor, evaluate and publicly report on the progress towards the seven objectives.

Measure: annual report released.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Annually assess and report on WMMP objectives	Rates Levy	Years 1-6

Action 6

Co-plan and develop a regional resource recovery facility in partnership with relevant stakeholders to support improved resource recovery outcomes and act as a central hub for Council's rural waste network.

Measure: new facility operating, number of rural sites integrated.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1		Collectively lead, design and manage in partnership with key stakeholders and wider community.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-3 complete plan. Development ongoing

Action 7

Continue to provide Council recycling services at kerbside and drop-off locations.

Measure: service reliability, tonnes collected, contamination and diversion rates.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2		Deliver via contracts	Rates Levy	Years 1-6

Action 8

Continue to provide Council service for refuse at kerbside and/or via transfer stations as part of Council's core refuse disposal services.

Measure: service reliability and total refuse tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2		Deliver via contractor	Rates	Ongoing

Action 9

Audit kerbside recycling contamination and bulking loss with contractors and report results six-monthly in Years 1-2, then annually.

Measure: contamination percentage, bulking loss percentage and corrective actions.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 4		Lead audits and work with kerbside recycling contractors	Rates Levy	Ongoing annually

Action 10

Increase recovery of key materials via established product stewardship programmes that provide design-to-disposal support and education.

Measure: programme enrolments and tonnes recovered.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2		Co-ordinate and support	Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 11

Provide annual contestable grants to promote or achieve waste diversion, minimisation and/or elimination.

Measure: number of projects funded annually, total funds distributed annually, estimated tonnes of waste prevented, reduced or diverted as reported by funded projects.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
5		Administer and oversee funding allocations and outcomes. Report outcomes to wider community.	Levy	Years 1-6

Action 12

Deliver targeted engagement, monitoring and enforcement to prevent and reduce illegal dumping.

Measure: number of enforcement actions, number of hotspot interventions and tonnes of illegally dumped waste collected.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3, 7		Engagement and monitoring	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 13

Investigate, manage and take action to remediate priority legacy landfills, contaminated sites and closed landfills. This includes landfill closure activities in accordance with Council records for identified and priority locations – ensuring active monitoring and management plans are in place.

Measure: number of sites assessed and compliance with consents/management plans.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3		Lead with ongoing community engagement and input from key stakeholders.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 14

Implement a kerbside collection service incorporating wheelie bins, with provision to introduce an organic collection service where feasible.

Measure: kerbside wheelie bin service implemented.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2		Review options leading to service establishment.	Rates Levy	Initiate Years 4-6

Action 15

Increase monitoring and surveying of regional waste streams (e.g., quantities, material types and diversion rates).

Measure: annual survey delivered to 2031 and published KPIs.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Council to work with waste operators, local community and contractors.	Rates Levy	Annually

Action 16

Work with internal and external partners to integrate sustainability goals, waste minimisation practices and efficient waste services into the planning and design of new multi-unit/ inner city and commercial developments.

Measure: guidelines developed.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1		Council to lead cross-team collaboration and engagement with key stakeholders and relevant sectors.	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 17

Provide recovery/disposal pathways for wastewater treatment plant solids via contractor.

Measure: annual tonnes recovered/disposed and compliance with standards.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
3		Deliver via contractor	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 18

Establish collaborative relationships with rural communities to deliver upgrades to rural waste services/facilities and implement a minimum of two rural resource recovery initiatives that increase waste diversion.

Measure: number of initiatives delivered, number of rural service or facilitiy upgrades completed, rural diversion tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 2, 5		Guide and support in partnership	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-6

Action 19

Monitor and analyse rural waste streams on a regular basis to track trends, inform service planning and measure progress towards diversion and minimisation objectives.

Measure: Biennial monitoring and reports, KPI trend analysis through 2031.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4		Lead with support from waste operators, local community and contractors	Rates Levy	Track and report on two yearly rotation

Action 20

Audit Council offices/sites every two years and implement interventions to eliminate, reduce and divert waste.

Measure: actions completed and diversion tonnes.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 4		Cross-Council collaboration, engagement, monitoring and reporting.	Levy	Site audits on two-yearly rotation

Action 21

Investigate and develop options and protocols for problematic materials and emergency wastes (disaster debris, woody, hazardous, spills, water-based recovery).

Measure: protocols approved and incidents managed per protocol.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
6		Lead with support from key stakeholders (including Civil Defence and Emergency Management) and community engagement	Rates Levy Co-funding External funding	Years 1-3

Action 22

Ensure Council waste management and minimisation service contracts are effectively managed, monitored, audited and reviewed to meet performance and compliance requirements.

Measure: number of audits completed and KPI compliance.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 4		Lead and maintain via ongoing scheduling and reporting	Rates	Years 1-6

Action 23

Collaborate with cross-council stakeholders to reduce emissions from waste handling/disposal per Council's Emissions Reduction Plan.

Measure: emissions KPI trend and actions delivered.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 3		Cross-Council collaboration	Rates Levy	Ongoing

Action 24

Build and strengthen inter-regional relationships to align waste reduction initiatives and pursue collaborative opportunities with other councils.

Measure: number of joint initiatives implemented and shared standards adopted.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 5		Seek multi-council collaboration and ongoing comittment	Rates Levy	Start Year 2 Ongoing

Action 25

Investigate and assess short, medium and long-term regional waste disposal and minimisation options as part of a whole-of-system approach to waste management and minimisation – incorporating emerging technologies and innovative practices.

Measure: strategy completed and milestones set by Year 6.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 6		Lead in partnership with key stakeholders and wider community	Rates	Years 4-6

Action 26

Implement waste licensing for operators and collectors as part of bylaw implemenation.

Measure: Waste licensing framework implemented through solid waste bylaw, number of waste operators and collectors licensed annually.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
2, 7		Lead	Rates Licensing fees	Years 1-3

Action 27

Regularly review Council's capability and capacity for waste minimisation and management functions to align with sector and regional changes. This includes providing professional development, ongoing subscriptions, sector memberships, participation in national policy and legislative processes and participation in relevent conferences.

Measure: annual capacity review.

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
4, 5		Undertake reviews of waste team capability	Rates Levy	Ongoing

Action 28

Develop and implement a long term residual waste disposal and resilience strategy that secures appropriate in-region and out-of-region landfill access, manages transport and cost risk, and evaluates future regional disposal options.

Measure:

Objective	Government outcome	Council role	Funding option	Timeline
1, 6		Lead	Rates Levy	Years 1-3 develop strategy Ongoing review

Ngā mihi
Thank you

Whatungarongaro te tangata, toitū te whenua
People come and go but land remains.

Tairāwhiti
Draft Waste Management and Minimisation Plan
2025 - 2031

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Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

26-132

Title:	**26-132 Council Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan**
Section:	Sustainable Futures
Prepared by:	Samuel Chademana – Climate Change Response Manager
	Sally McIntosh-Principal Advisor Climate Change Response
Meeting Date:	Thursday 11 June 2026

Legal: Yes	Financial: Yes	Significance: **Low**

Report to SUSTAINABLE TAIRAWHITI /TOITŪ TAIRĀWHITI for decision

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to seek Gisborne District Council (Council) approval to replace Council's current corporate net-zero 2030 emissions reduction target with a corporate net-zero 2050 target that is aligned with national legislative settings and a more deliverable long-term reduction pathway.

The report also presents the Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan 2025–2050 and recommends priority action areas for consideration through the 2027–2037 Long Term Plan process.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

Council adopted a corporate net-zero 2030 target in 2022, with the proviso that it would be feasible without significant financial impacts to ratepayers or relying on offsets. Since that time, staff have updated Council's greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory and the draft Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) and identified significant challenges with achieving this target. These include financial constraints, technology limitations and the scale of Scope 3 emissions.

This report recommends that Council replace the current corporate net-zero 2030 target with a corporate net-zero 2050 target. The revised target is more closely aligned with national legislative settings, recognised long-term emissions reduction pathways, Council's current financial position, and the practical constraints identified through the updated greenhouse gas inventory and draft ERP.

This change does not reduce Council's commitment to emissions reduction. It resets the delivery pathway so that emissions reduction can be progressed in a financially responsible, evidence-based and operationally achievable way.

This report also presents the ERP (**Attachment 1**). It establishes a practical long-term pathway for reducing operational emissions across Council activities, including waste, fleet, energy use, procurement, infrastructure delivery and land management.

The draft plan presents a staged implementation approach that prioritises operational efficiencies, cost savings and financially prudent emissions reduction initiatives within Council's current fiscal constraints.

Priorities for the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan (LTP) development will focus on:

- improved emissions measurement and monitoring
- operational efficiency initiatives
- cost-saving measures
- staged investment in high-impact emissions reduction projects, particularly where there are recognised regional benefits
- integration of emissions reduction into long-term planning and asset management.

RECOMMENDATIONS - NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. **Replaces the current corporate net-zero 2030 emissions reduction target with a corporate net-zero 2050 target for Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions.**
2. **Endorses the Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan 2025–2050 as the framework for guiding staged emissions reduction across Council's corporate operations.**
3. **Notes that priority action areas will be considered through the 2027–2037 Long Term Plan process, including activity management planning, future funding decisions and separate business cases where required.**

Authorised by:

Jocelyne Allen - Director Sustainable Futures

Keywords: climate change, emissions reduction plan, net-zero target,

BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. In December 2019, Council resolved to take a regional leadership role on climate change (**report 19-120**) and subsequently adopted a corporate net-zero 2030 emissions reduction target in 2022 (**report 22-30**).

2. At the time the target was adopted, Council noted that the target would need to be feasible without significant financial impacts on ratepayers and without reliance on purchasing carbon credits. A detailed feasibility assessment and financial impact analysis had not yet been completed. An action from that decision was to provide Councillors with further information on the cost implications for ratepayers of achieving a 2030 net-zero target.

3. A draft ERP for the net-zero 2030 target was initially developed by MyImprint in 2022–2023, but further progress was delayed following Cyclone Gabrielle, as organisational priorities shifted toward response and recovery activities.

4. The Cyclone Gabrielle response and recovery period also materially changed Council's operating environment, including the scale, urgency and emissions profile of contractor-led recovery and infrastructure activity.

5. Subsequent work identified significant implementation challenges, particularly in relation to affordability, technology readiness and organisational capacity.

6. A workshop was held with elected members in March 2025, which provided background on the evolution of Council's emissions reduction programme and the findings of the internal technical review.

7. Staff engaged the same contractors as used previously to update the GHG inventory (AECOM) and the draft ERP (MyImprint). This work has highlighted the need for a revised and more achievable emissions reduction pathway aligned with national legislation and recognised science-based approaches.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

Council's emissions profile

8. AECOM first completed a GHG inventory for Council in 2020 for the FY 2018/19. This became our baseline year, against which emission reductions are measured. The GHG inventory was repeated for the FY 2023/24.

9. Comparison between the two inventories has been challenging due to changes in accounting methodology, particularly for Scope 3 emissions. However, in October 2025, the base year was recalculated to include comparable Scope 3 sources.

10. As shown in the table below, Council's total emissions increased overall in FY 2023/24. This increase is mostly due to increased contractor activities through Cyclone Gabrielle recovery. The direct emissions from Council operations decreased over that time.

Council's Emission by Source (excl GHL)	**FY 18/19 t CO_2e**	**Updated FY18/19**	**FY 23/24 t CO_2e**
Scope 1 – Direct emissions	14,477	14,477	11,528
Scope 2 – Indirect emissions from purchased energy	857	857	598
Scope 3 – Other indirect emissions	5,604	21,093	36,766
Council Total Emissions	**20,937**	**36,426**	**48,892**

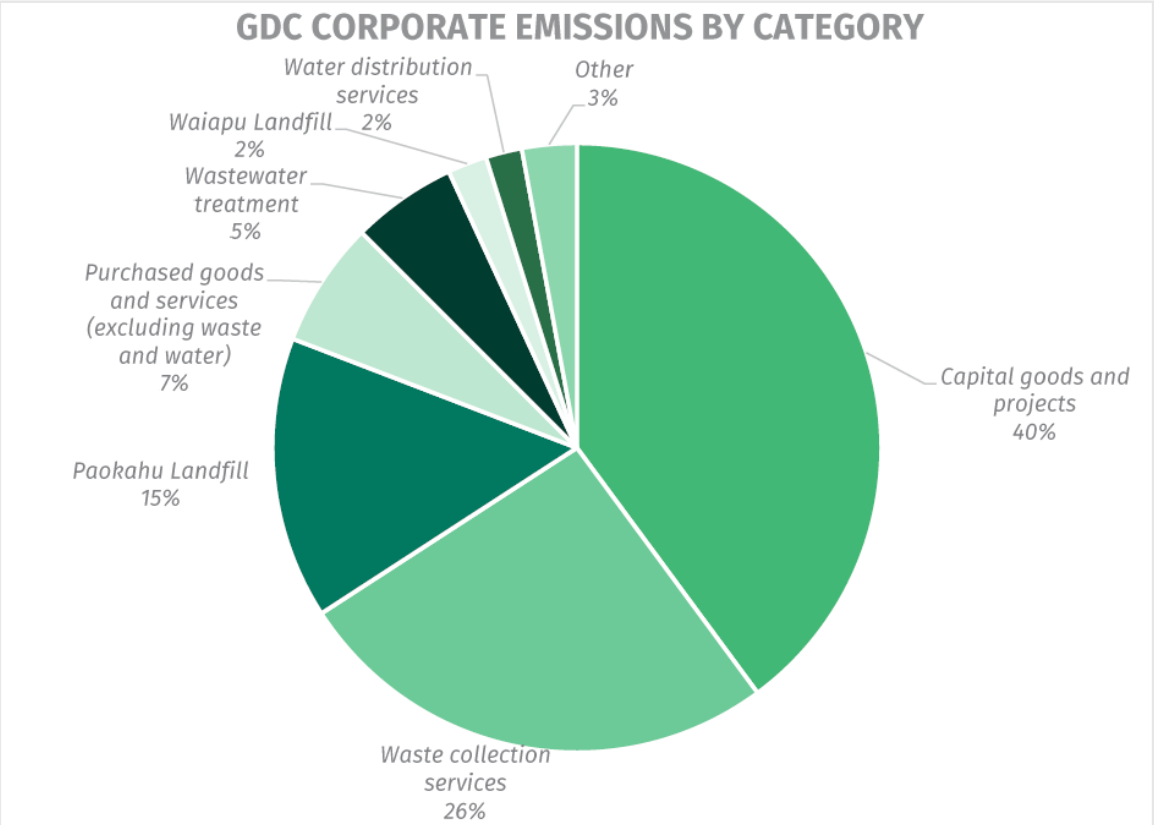


Figure 1: Gisborne District Council Corporate emissions by category (excl. GHL) from AECOM report 2025

11. Reducing Council's emissions will require a long-term and staged approach because a significant proportion of the emissions profile relates to Scope 3 (indirect) emissions associated with procurement, contractors, infrastructure delivery and supply chains. These activities are necessary to deliver core public services and, in many cases, Council has limited direct control over the availability, timing, cost and maturity of lower-emission alternatives.

12. Some of Council's direct emissions sources do offer opportunities for both emissions reduction and operational efficiency, including fleet optimisation, energy efficiency improvements, renewable electricity initiatives and improved procurement processes.

13. However, Council's biggest operational emission sources, such as landfill methane and wastewater treatment, are complex and could be expensive to reduce.

14. For example, Paokahu landfill is a major source of Council's emissions and presents both a significant opportunity and a delivery risk. Current emissions estimates are based on modelling only. A feasibility study is needed to confirm the volume of landfill gas and whether flaring or capture is viable. If significant gas is confirmed, early action is recommended, as methane has a high warming impact despite being relatively short-lived.

15. Delivery may also be constrained by governance and operational arrangements, as Paokahu is managed by the Paokahu Trust rather than Council directly. Any future landfill gas investigation or intervention would need to be progressed with the Trust and remain subject to feasibility, funding, regulatory, governance and implementation considerations. If flaring or gas capture proves feasible and can be delivered, it could make a substantial contribution to reducing Council's direct emissions and reduce the scale and pace of emissions reductions required elsewhere in the organisation.

Draft Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan

16. The draft ERP establishes a framework for reducing emissions across Council operations between now and 2050. The plan focuses on six key areas:
    - Waste and landfills
    - Energy and buildings
    - Fleet and transport
    - Procurement and capital projects
    - Offsetting and sequestration
    - Leadership

17. The ERP adopts an emissions reduction hierarchy approach by first prioritising improved emissions data and monitoring, energy and waste efficiency, behaviour and process change and optimising existing assets and systems.

18. Prioritisation of actions has been informed by the Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) analysis completed as part of the ERP update (Attachment 1, p.80). This analysis considers:
    a. Expected emissions savings of each action
    b. Estimated cost per tonne of carbon reduced

19. The MACC analysis demonstrated the following in their preferred order:
    - Sustainable procurement and improvements to construction/building processes (both $3.2 per tonne of carbon reduced) will reduce a relatively large amount of carbon, for a relatively low cost. They will also contribute significantly to optimising existing assets and systems.
    - Pending confirmation from feasibility studies, treatment of Paokahu Landfill may reduce a large proportion of Council's direct emissions, for a lower cost per tonne of carbon than many other options.
    - Energy efficiency measures and optimising/electrifying the fleet will save money, and reduce a relatively small amount of carbon

20. This analysis provides a tool to compare the estimated costs and benefits of the proposed emissions reduction actions. However, the corporate ERP actions also need to be considered within the wider context of Council priorities and constraints.

21. This approach reflects Council's current financial position and the need to focus investment on projects that can reduce both emissions and operational costs and provide co-benefits to the community.

22. Most ERP actions are not currently funded within the 2024-2027 Three-Year Plan, with exceptions including LED streetlight upgrades, some fleet replacement activities and Waingake restoration.

23. Staff recommend using the following considerations for prioritisation as illustrated in the table below:

    a. Estimated cost

    b. Emissions reduction potential

    c. Change management burden

    d. Co-benefits, i.e. operational efficiencies, regional emissions reductions, environmental improvements (biodiversity, freshwater, waste minimisation), equity benefits.

Priority Area	Relative Cost	Emissions Reduction Potential	Change Management Burden	Co-benefits	Recommended Timing
Energy audits and efficiency	Low–Medium	Medium	Low	Operational efficiency	Immediate (Y1-3)
Fleet optimisation	Low	Medium	Low	Operational efficiency	Immediate (Y1-3)
Waste audits and optimisation	Low	Medium	Low	Operational efficiency Waste minimisation	Immediate (Y1-3)
Emissions monitoring systems	Low–Medium	Enabling action	Low	Operational efficiency	Immediate (Y1-3)
Procurement improvements	Medium	High	Medium	Operational efficiency	Short-medium term (Y1-6)
Landfill methane feasibility studies	Medium	High	Medium	Understanding emission sources	Short-medium term (Y1-6)
Fleet electrification	High	Medium	Medium	Fuel resilience	Progressive
Renewable energy infrastructure	High	Medium	Medium–High	Energy resilience	Long term (Y10+)
Landfill gas capture	High	Very high	High	Uncertain	Uncertain (needs feasibility)

24. Staff recommend prioritising efficiency and optimisation actions in the 2027-2037 LTP, including:
    - improved procurement and asset management processes
    - landfill methane testing and feasibility studies
    - energy audits at major Council facilities
    - fleet optimisation and pool vehicle use
    - waste audits and collection optimisation
    - emissions monitoring and reporting systems
25. Higher-cost interventions such as landfill gas capture infrastructure, large-scale renewable energy generation and fleet electrification remain important long-term actions, but they involve greater capital investment, technology dependency and organisational change requirements. These projects will require further feasibility assessment and future LTP funding decisions.
26. The staged approach proposed in the ERP is intended to:
    - minimise immediate financial impacts
    - improve organisational understanding of emissions sources
    - deliver operational and financial co-benefits where possible
    - reduce implementation risk
    - align emissions reduction investment with asset renewal cycles and future LTP processes.

Revised Emissions Reduction Target

27. The current net-zero 2030 target is no longer considered achievable without substantial unbudgeted investment, rapid technological change, or the purchase of offsets. Staff therefore recommend replacing the existing target with a long-term target framework that is aligned with national legislative settings and broadly consistent with recognised science-based emissions reduction pathways.
28. Staff recommend adopting a corporate net-zero 2050 target aligned with:
    - the long-term direction of the Climate Change Response Act 2002;
    - New Zealand's national emissions reduction framework;
    - the direction of the Paris Agreement; and
    - recognised science-based emissions reduction principles, while recognising Council's role, mandate, affordability constraints and operational emissions profile.
29. Staff consider the alignment with science-based approaches as important for maintaining organisational credibility and demonstrating long-term climate leadership.
30. Staff previously recommended a Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) aligned approach. Under the SBTi framework, organisations are encouraged to adopt both near-term and long-term targets to support progressive emissions reduction in line with the Paris Agreement goal of holding the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, while pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C.
31. Staff are not currently recommending adoption of formal near-term interim targets due to ongoing uncertainty regarding implementation costs and the need to better understand feasible reduction pathways within Council operations. This approach avoids setting interim targets before Council has sufficient confidence in the cost, timing, delivery levers and operational dependencies required to achieve them.

32. However, the ERP retains a staged implementation programme that prioritises immediate operational improvements and progressive emissions reduction actions. Internal timeline checkpoints will be used to track emissions, review progress against the ERP, test whether future interim targets are appropriate, and inform future LTP and annual planning decisions.

ASSESSMENT of SIGNIFICANCE - AROTAKENGA o NGĀ HIRANGA

Consideration of consistency with and impact on the Regional Land Transport Plan and its implementation
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

Impacts on Council's delivery of its Financial Strategy and Long Term Plan
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Medium** Significance

Inconsistency with Council's current strategy and policy
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on all or a large part of the Gisborne district
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on individuals or specific communities
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue
Overall Process: **Medium** Significance
This Report: **Medium** Significance

33. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. This is because the decision relates to Council's internal corporate emissions target and does not, of itself, approve new levels of service, impose obligations on the community, or commit Council to major capital expenditure.

34. Climate change is a significant strategic issue for Council and the region. However, this report relates specifically to Council's corporate operations and internal emissions reduction activities.

35. The report does not commit Council to immediate major capital expenditure. Future funding decisions for significant projects will be considered through Long Term Plan processes and separate business cases.

TREATY COMPASS ANALYSIS

Kāwanatanga

36. Iwi and hapū already have a significant role in responding to climate change impacts within their rohe. Council's response must support and enhance efforts.

37. Decision-making, co-design and information sharing opportunities all need to be explored as part of our regional response to climate change.

Rangatiratanga

38. Climate change response will require local planning and action. Supporting iwi, hapū and communities to develop their own climate response plans, and manage implementation and resources, is an opportunity that needs to be progressed in Tairāwhiti.

Oritetanga

39. Climate change has the potential to radically threaten the cultural, environmental, economic and social wellbeing of Māori.

40. Transitioning to a low carbon future and adapting to the effects of climate change is a more complex matter for Māori, for many reasons. The complex legacy of colonisation, their intrinsic bond with te taiao and role as kaitiaki, cultural values and economic vulnerabilities all influence their capacity to deal with climate threats.

41. Recognising the complexities and supporting local climate response planning provides an opportunity to address inequities.

Whakapono

42. Responding to climate change requires systems thinking – there is no one solution and the health and wellbeing of people is intrinsically linked to the health and wellbeing of our environment. Mātauranga Māori can enhance our shared understanding of climate risks and mitigation solutions.

43. Staff will be directed by tangata whenua as to how any mātauranga shared with Council can be used.

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

44. No formal engagement has been undertaken on the corporate ERP at this stage, as the decision sought in this report relates to Council's internal corporate emissions target and operational emissions management.

45. Engagement with iwi and hapū will continue as broader regional climate response and adaptation programmes are developed.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

46. No community engagement has been undertaken on the draft corporate ERP, as the decision sought relates specifically to Council's internal corporate operations and emissions management activities. Future community engagement may occur through Long Term Plan consultation processes where funding decisions, levels of service, or significant investment proposals are advanced.

CLIMATE CHANGE – Impacts / Implications - NGĀ REREKĒTANGA ĀHUARANGI – ngā whakaaweawe / ngā ritenga

47. This report directly addresses Council's corporate greenhouse gas emissions and establishes a framework for long-term emissions reduction planning.

48. The ERP supports Council's wider climate change response work programme and contributes to national emissions reduction objectives.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

49. The draft ERP identifies a range of actions with varying implementation costs and timelines.
50. Current estimates indicate:
    - initial planning and efficiency actions are relatively low cost
    - major infrastructure and technology projects would require significant future investment
    - most actions are currently unfunded.
51. Staff recommend prioritising:
    - projects with operational savings and decarbonisation benefits
    - actions that improve emissions data quality and organisational decision-making
    - initiatives that can be integrated into existing programmes and renewals.
52. Future funding requirements will be considered through the 2027–2037 LTP process, and no major unfunded capital expenditure is approved through this report.
53. External funding opportunities, including Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) programmes and Local Government Funding Agency financing mechanisms, will continue to be investigated.

Legal

54. The Climate Change Response Act 2002 sets New Zealand's long-term domestic climate change target, including net-zero emissions of all greenhouse gases other than biogenic methane by 2050, and specific reduction targets for biogenic methane. Council's proposed corporate net-zero 2050 target is consistent with the direction of this national framework, while recognising that Council's target applies to its corporate emissions rather than district-wide emissions.
55. The CCRA requires that a national emissions reduction plan be prepared for each emissions budget period (five-yearly). In December 2024, the Government released the second Emissions Reduction Plan for the second emissions budget (2026–30). Local government has a key role to play in supporting the reduction of national emissions, particularly in the areas of transport, land-use, and waste.
56. Council also has responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002 and Resource Management Act 1991 to support community wellbeing, infrastructure resilience, and environmental stewardship.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

57. The ERP supports Council's climate change response objectives and provides a framework for integrating emissions reduction considerations into future planning, procurement, infrastructure, and asset management processes.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

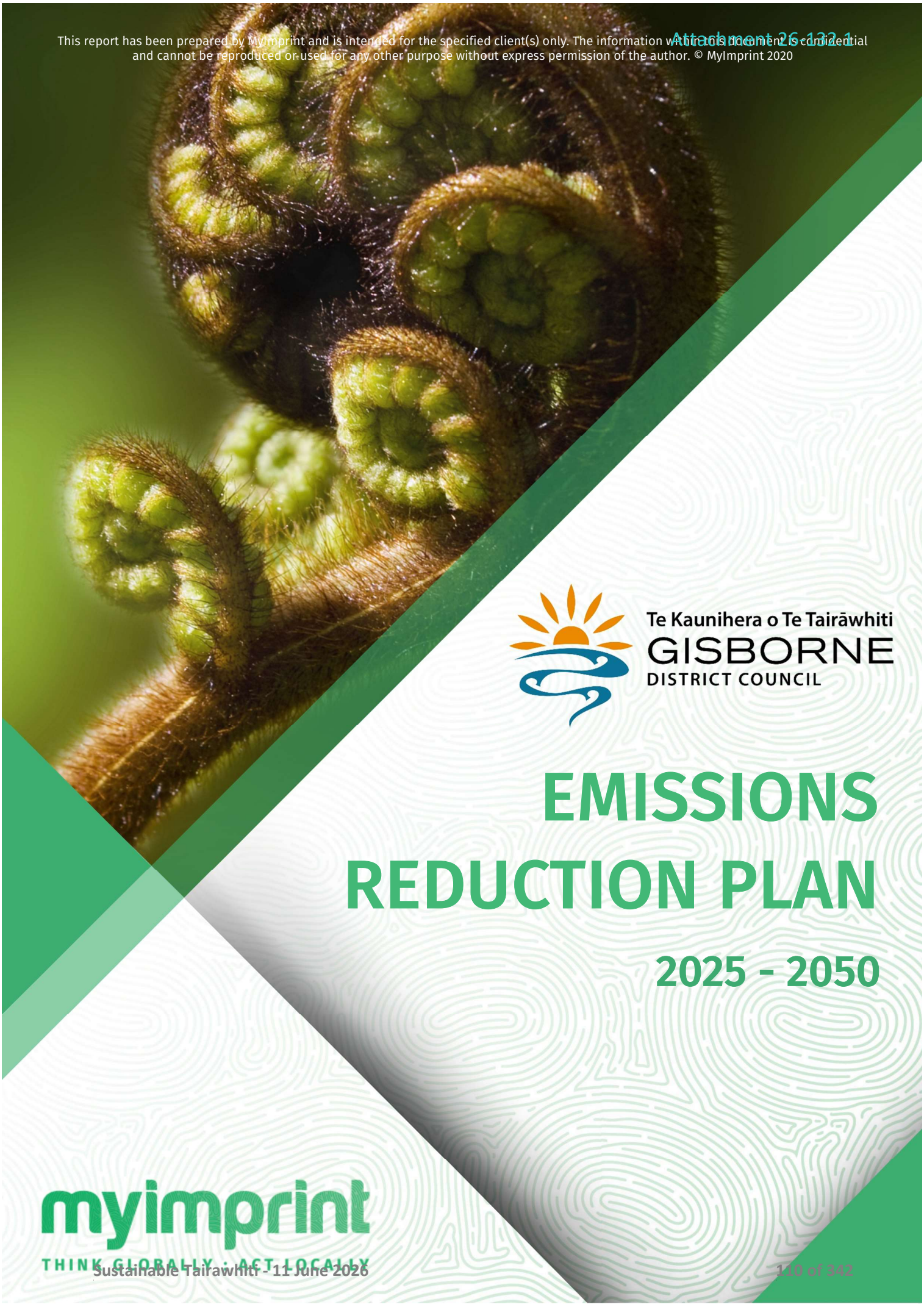
Risk	Mitigation
Reputational risk of revising net-zero 2030 target.	Clear communication that the net-zero 2030 target decision was made with the proviso that it would be feasible without significant financial impacts to ratepayers or relying on offsets. It has now been confirmed as not feasible. Alignment with internationally recognised science-based approaches and national legislative settings supports the credibility of the revised target framework.
Public perception that Council is reducing its climate ambition by moving from a 2030 target to a 2050 target.	Clearly communicate that the 2030 target was adopted with feasibility and affordability qualifications, and that updated emissions inventory and ERP work has confirmed the need for a more deliverable pathway. The revised target maintains a long-term emissions reduction commitment while aligning delivery with evidence, funding processes, operational constraints and national legislative settings.
Reputational risk if Council does not make sufficient progress towards the revised target.	Adopt a long-term target aligned with national settings, supported by a staged ERP, improved emissions monitoring, periodic progress reviews, and future LTP decision points.
Risk that funding limitations will constrain implementation.	Prioritise staged delivery and operational efficiency projects. Consider future LTP funding.
Risk of technical feasibility. Some actions are ambitious and depend on future technology, regulatory approval or external funding.	Many of the technical actions require feasibility studies to be completed. The ERP will need to be updated regularly and adjust to the outcomes of feasibility studies.
Organisational capacity and governance challenges could impact implementation.	Continue cross-Council climate working group and integrated planning processes.
Incomplete emissions data affects decision-making.	Continue improving monitoring, reporting and verification systems.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
30 June 2026	Include priority ERP actions in draft Activity Management Plans (AMPs)	Draft AMPs are due at the end of June for LTP budgeting decisions.
July 2026	Begin GHG inventory for the 2025/26 financial year	
2026/27	Report progress through the relevant Council reporting cycle, including updated emissions inventory information and recommended ERP priorities for the 2027–2037 LTP.	

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - 2026.02.17 Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan 2025-2050 [**26-132.1** - 130 pages]



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN

2025 - 2050

myimprint
THINK GLOBALLY : ACT LOCALLY

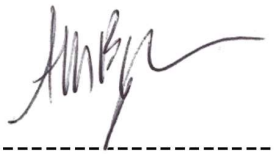
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN 2025 - 2050

Prepared by: Jessie Smith, Environmental Accountant; Anna Byers, Environmental Accountant; Andrew Lawton, Director

Date:

14/02/26

Signed:



Record of Amendment

Amendment number	Description of change	Effective date	Updated by

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List of Abbreviations and Acronyms

General Terms & Units

tCO_2e	Tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
GHG	Greenhouse gas
GHGI	Greenhouse gas inventory
BCR	Benefit–cost ratio
FY	Financial year
NDC	Nationally Determined Contribution
NZS	New Zealand Standard

Government & Policy Agencies/Programmes

CCC	Climate Change Commission
MBIE	Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment
MfE	Ministry for the Environment
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
CNGP	Carbon Neutral Government Programme
NLTP	National Land Transport Programme

Council & Local Government

TA	Territorial authority
CCTO	Council Controlled Trading Organisation
GDC	Gisborne District Council
GHL	Gisborne Holdings Limited

Planning & Strategy Documents

ERP	Emissions reduction plan
LTP	Long Term Plan
SOI	Statement of intent

Environmental Metrics & Ratings

ADT	Average daily traffic
ETS	Emissions Trading Scheme
LED	Light-emitting diode
NABERSNZ	National Australian Built Environment Rating System
NZGBC	New Zealand Green Building Council
ESG	Environmental, social, and governance

Additional Terms

NFP	Not-for-profit
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprises
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant
LGC	Landfill gas capture

1. Executive Summary

This Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) outlines recommended actions to reduce GDC's organisational emissions and further incorporate environmental sustainability in operational and organisational culture. To achieve lasting emissions reductions, GDC needs to encourage a culture of ownership and proactive action. This requires an intentional, organisation-wide adoption of the emissions reduction goals.

Emissions inventories have been completed for the Financial Year FY 18/19 (base year) and FY 23/24. While the emissions inventories include the emissions associated with the Council Controlled Trading Organisation (CCTO) Gisborne Holdings Limited (GHL), this ERP focuses on GDC's corporate emissions reduction target and the actions needed to reach it, excluding GHL. GHL will align its targets and goals to Council goals through the strategic objectives in the Statement of Intent (SOI).

MyImprint recommends focusing on the projects that have the greatest impact for reducing emissions per dollar spent. While this plan is extensive, the largest reductions will come from focusing on Paokahu and Waiapu landfill, and procurement and contracts (Capital Goods and Services and Purchased Goods and Services). We suggest short-term goals (1-3 years) include:

- improve carbon tracking and reporting,
- facilitate collective engagement,
- refine procurement and capital/infrastructure project policies, and
- complete those investigations that will detail the impact of future emissions reduction projects.

From 2028 to 2030 the capital projects with major impacts should be implemented to achieve near-term reduction targets. This includes treating Paokahu and Waiapu landfills.

This ERP contains the recommended actions to meet the emissions reduction targets. Six priority areas have been identified: Waste, Energy, Transport, Building and Construction, Land, and Leadership. The proposed actions are summarised in the following table (Table 1), along with their likely impact on the GDC emissions profile, approximate cost, and recommended timing.

Implementation of the ERP presents several critical risks requiring proactive management. The most significant relate to:

- Economic pressures - given Tairāwhiti's limited community affordability.
- Leadership and departmental accountability - where strong executive commitment is required to drive sustained action.
- Social equity - ensuring emissions initiatives do not disproportionately affect vulnerable communities.
- Climate and environmental disruption - with extreme weather events posing ongoing threats to infrastructure and delivery.

These risks are assessed using an ISO 31000:2018-aligned framework, with proposed mitigations including strong leadership oversight, clear governance and reporting, targeted affordability and equity measures, and integration of climate assessment into all major projects.

Table 1: Summary of emissions reductions - near term

Emissions reduction action - near term (From 2025 to 2035)	Priority	Timeframe	FY18/19 baseline emisisons	Emissions reduction from action (%)	Emissions reduction from action (tCO2e)	Percentage reduction of total emissions	Total emission remaining emissions in 2035
EXAMPLE	/	*(When the project will run)*	*(Emissions in FY18/19)*	*(e.g. the gas emitted by Paokahu Landfill will be reduced by 94%)*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emisisons by 94%, we are avoiding release of 11,478 tCO2e)*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emissions by 94%/11,478 tCO2e, we have reduced our total emissions by 31.5% from FY18/19 baseline)*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emissions, our 2035 emissions inventory will be 68% of what it was in FY18/19)*
WASTE			**14,515**		**12,740**	**35.0%**	100%
Methane destruction for the closed landfill of Paokahu	A	2025 - 2027	12,250	94%	11,478	32%	68%
Methane destruction for the closed landfill of Waiapu	B	2025 - 2027	1,044	88%	893	2.5%	66%
Optimisation of waste collection services	A	2027	410	50%	205	0.6%	65%
Corporate Waste Audit	B	2026	21	30%	6	0.0%	65%
Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan	B	2027					
Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	A	2026 - 2028	790	20%	158	0.4%	65%
ENERGY			**1,543**		**308**	**0.8%**	
Corporate Energy Audit	B	2026	857	20%	171	0.5%	65%
Improve Energy Efficiency	B	2027					
Decarbonise Electricity Use	B	2030	686	20%	137	0.4%	64%
TRANSPORT			**895**		**452**	**1.2%**	
Conversion to Electric Fleet	B						
Optimisation and Improved Pool Vehicle Access	B	2025 - 2030	313	50%	250	0.7%	64%
Increase Charging Facilities	B						
Incentivise forms of Flexible Working and Active Transport	C	2025 - 2026	444	30%	133	0.4%	63%
Decarbonise Public Transport	C	2034	138	50%	69	0.2%	63%
BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION			**15,493**		**6,197**	**17.0%**	
Measure Infrastructure & Capital Projects Emissions	A	2025 - 2026			Required for emissions reductions		63%
Certification for Existing and New Buildings	A	2027	15,493	40%	6,197	17.0%	46%
Sustainable Design and Construction	A	2025 - 2026					
LEADERSHIP			**4,424**		**1,770**	**4.9%**	
Regularly Measure and Report Emissions	A	2025 - 2035			Required for emissions reductions		46%
Software Requirements	B	2026			Required for emissions reductions		46%
Sustainable Procurement and Life Cycle Management	A	2025	4,424	40%	1,770	5%	41%
Investing in Emissions Reductions	A	2026 - 2035			Required for emissions reductions		41%
Communication and Engagement Plans	A	2025 - 2035			Required for emissions reductions		41%
Integrate into GDC Planning Processes	A	2025 - 2035			Required for emissions reductions		41%
LAND					**0**	**0%**	
Reforestation: Waingake Transformation Programme	A	Ongoing	-		1,000 - 4,000	-	Carbon sequestration
Increase Carbon Sequestration and Biodiversity	A	2027 - 2035	-		10 - 450	-	Carbon sequestration
Native Burial	C	2029	Not included in inventory		~25	Not included in inventory	-
TOTAL					**21,468**	**58.9%**	41%

: sequestration projects

Table 2: Summary of emissions reductions - long term

Emissions reduction action - long term (From 2035 to 2050)		Priority	Timeframe	Predicted 2035 emissions	Emissions reduction from action (%)	Emissions reduction from action (tCO2e)	Percentage reduction of total emissions	Total emission remaining emissions in 2050
EXAMPLE	/		*(When the project will run)*	*(Emissions in 2035, after first reduction actions have been taken)*	*(e.g. after achieving 2035 targets, the gas emitted by Paokahu Landfill will be reduced an*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emisisons by a 48% since 2035, we are avoiding the annual release of 372 tCO2e)*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emissions by an additional 48%, we have reduced our total emissions an additional 1% since 2035)*	*(e.g. by reducing Paokahu emissions, our 2050 emissions inventory will be 40% of what it was in FY18/19)*
WASTE				**1,775**		**896**	**2.5%**	41%
1	Methane destruction for the closed landfill of Paokahu (natural reduction)	A	2025 - 2027	772	48%	372	1.0%	40%
2	Methane destruction for the closed landfill of Waiapu (natural reduction)	B	2025 - 2027	151	83%	126	0.3%	40%
3	Optimisation of waste collection services	A	2027, review in 2035	205	100%	205	0.6%	39%
4	Corporate Waste Audit	B	2026, redo in 2036	15	20%	3	0.01%	39%
5	Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan	B	2027, redo in 2037					39%
6	Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade	A	2026 - 2028	632	30%	190	0.5%	
ENERGY				**686**		**560**	**1.5%**	
9	Decarbonise Electricity Use	B	2035-2050	686	100%	560	1.5%	37%
TRANSPORT				**692**		**256**	**0.7%**	
10	Conversion to Electric Fleet	B						
11	Optimisation and Improved Pool Vehicle Access	B	2035-2040	313	100%	63	0.2%	37%
12	Increase Charging Facilities	B						
13	Incentivise forms of Flexible Working and Active Transport	C	2025 - 2026	310	40%	124	0.3%	37%
14	Decarbonise Public Transport	C	2043	69	100%	69	0.2%	36%
BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION				**9,296**		**7,808**	**21.4%**	
15	Measure Infrastructure & Capital Projects Emissions	A	Ongoing		Required for emissions reductions			36%
16	Certification for Existing and New Buildings	A	Ongoing	9,296	84%	7,808	21.4%	15%
17	Sustainable Design and Construction	A	Ongoing					
LEADERSHIP				**2,655**		**2,230**	**6.1%**	
18	Regularly Measure and Report Emissions	A	Annually		Required for emissions reductions			15%
19	Software Requirements	B	2026; reassess in 2035		Required for emissions reductions			15%
20	Sustainable Procurement and Life Cycle Management	A	2025; reassess in 2035	2,655	84%	2,230	6%	9%
21	Investing in Emissions Reductions	A	2035-2050		Required for emissions reductions			9%
22	Communication and Engagement Plans	A	2035-2050		Required for emissions reductions			9%
23	Integrate into GDC Planning Processes	A	2035-2050		Required for emissions reductions			9%
LAND						**2,642**	**9%**	
24	Reforestation: Waingake Transformation Programme	A	Ongoing	-		2,642	9%	Carbon sequestration
25	Increase Carbon Sequestration and Biodiversity	A	Ongoing	-				
26	Native Burial	C	2029 and ongoing	Not included in inventory				
TOTAL						**36,426**	**100.0%**	9%

: sequestration projects

2. Introduction

This Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) has been created for GDC to provide a pathway to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This document investigates the current situation with Tairāwhiti, alongside GDC's goals, to deliver a Council-specific plan that fits the existing or potentially feasible infrastructure. This ERP recommends actions to progressively reduce organisational emissions. After an overview of the global and local climate change context in Section 3, the Emissions Reduction Strategy is described in Section 4. Emissions reduction targets are explained in Section 5. The actions are presented in detail in Section 6, and the next steps in Section 7.

3. Climate Change Context

Climate change is already having a major impact on our planet. Each of the past four decades has been successively warmer than the last, resulting in increased likelihood of extreme events such as heatwaves, heavy precipitation, droughts, and tropical cyclones.

These impacts are felt here in Tairawhiti. NIWA's 2020 report on climate change projections and impacts for Tairāwhiti anticipates changes to our climate and weather patterns that will heavily impact our communities, economy, and environment, and are already being seen (Woolley *et al.*, 2020). For example, NIWA found that climate change increased the amount of total rainfall during Cyclone Gabrielle in 2023 by 10% (NIWA, 2023).

To avoid catastrophic impacts from climate change, the IPCC recommends limiting warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. Overshooting this target would sharply raise the risk of triggering self-reinforcing climate "tipping points" such as permafrost thaw and large-scale ice-sheet loss (Waskow, 2023).

Accordingly, all governments and organisations are urged to adopt science-based, Paris-aligned targets and deliver rapid, absolute emission reductions across their value chains.

This chapter gives a brief overview of the initiatives adopted worldwide, in New Zealand, and in Tairāwhiti to respond to climate change, which inform this ERP.

WHAT DOES 1 TONNE OF CARBON REPRESENT?

6000 km in a diesel car

5 native trees (growing for 50 years)

Flying from Auckland to Wellington 7 times (for one person)

3.1 International and National level

As a party to the Paris Agreement, Aotearoa New Zealand's second Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) aims to reduce our net greenhouse gas emissions to **51-55% below gross 2005 levels by 2035.**

The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 legally binds New Zealand to reaching **net zero emissions 2050.** This target excludes biogenic methane from agriculture and waste, for which there are separate targets. The government sets multi-year emissions budgets and follows the national Emissions Reduction Plan as we work towards the 2050 target, with guidance from the Climate Change Commission.

3.2 Regional Level

GDC is actively working to mitigate the impact of climate change and lead by example in transitioning to a low carbon economy.

In 2019, GDC formally acknowledged that climate change is a significant issue for Tairawhiti and should be considered in all Council decision-making. The 2021-31 Long Term Plan and 2024-2027 Three Year Plan reflect the urgency and importance of a strong adaptation and mitigation response to climate change.

GDC has also created a high-level climate change roadmap to 2050, outlining the work required to reach regional climate change goals. The actions cover mitigation, adaptation, and just/equitable transition pieces of work. This Emissions Reduction Plan contains specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound actions to help GDC reach its targets.

4. GDC Emissions Reduction Strategy

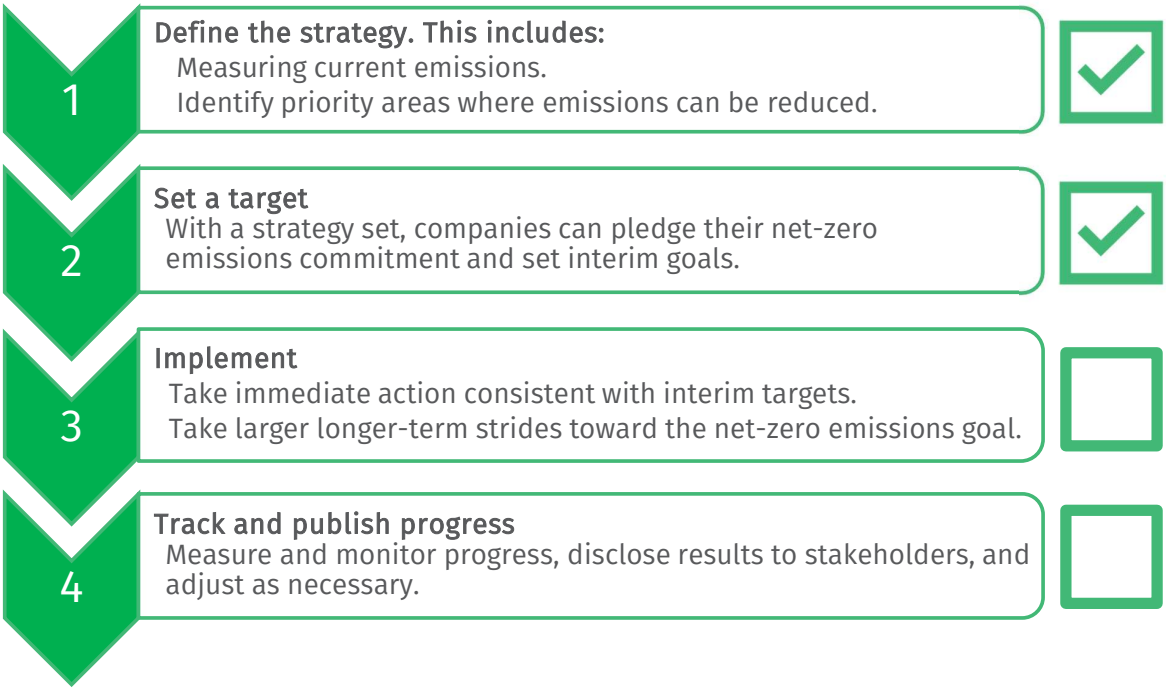
MyImprint have been engaged by the GDC Climate Change Response Team to provide technical support for GDC's climate change mitigation journey. There were two main tasks:

1. Help GDC set an emissions reduction target
2. Signal what the road to net zero will look like for Council in an Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP)

Adopting emissions reduction targets and designing an ERP are key to how GDC mitigates climate change. The ERP contains strategies and processes to reduce GDC's emissions to meet the targets that are set now, and for the future. It will also help incorporate environmental sustainability in operations and in organisational culture.

The ERP uses a Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) to estimate the potential impact and relative cost of different emissions reduction measures. This assesses the cost and emissions reduction potential of different actions to guide investment and prioritisation. See the final MACC in Section 7.

There are four broad steps to move toward net zero emissions. Two steps have already been achieved by GDC.



4.1 Reduction Hierarchy

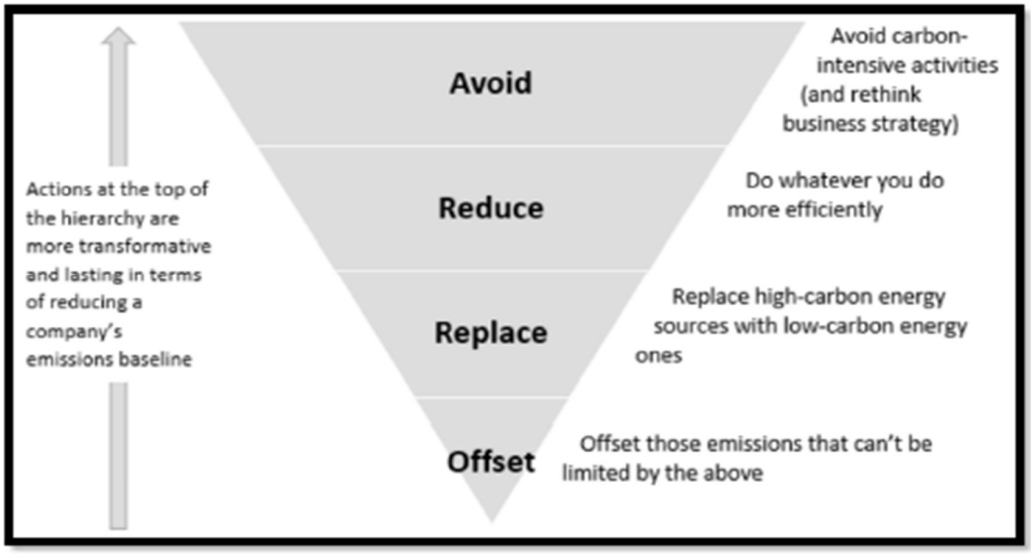


Figure 1: Carbon management hierarchy (Piper and Longhurst 2021)

Following the emissions reduction hierarchy shown in Figure 1 will allow GDC to reach their net-zero targets as efficiently and effectively as possible. This ERP follows this methodology by first suggesting actions to measure and understand GDC's emissions, such as testing the landfills, and waste and energy audits. This will then allow efficiencies and reductions to be implemented, avoiding and reducing unnecessary spending, consumption, and emissions. When existing emissions have been reduced through efficiencies, high-emissions technologies and processes can be replaced. Examples of this are flaring/gas capture for the landfill, replacing internal combustion engines in the GDC fleet with low-emissions vehicles, and installing solar panels. Remaining emissions can be offset or neutralised.

Offsetting is investment in external emissions reduction or removal projects outside of an organisation's value chain, usually to account for residual organisational emissions. Offsets often fund projects overseas and can carry reputational risks.

The Council has indicated that they would prefer to invest in emissions abatement and removal projects within their organisational value/supply chain. This process is described by the Science Based Targets Initiative as neutralising residual emissions through removals (i.e. carbon sequestration). This enables direct investment in local or operational emissions reductions and delivers measurable outcomes and community co-benefits such as healthier environments, cost savings, and job creation. This approach supports tangible action within the council's control and influence, such as electrifying fleets, retrofitting buildings, and supporting local decarbonisation. It aligns more closely with "avoid and reduce first" climate strategies and demonstrates real leadership by building internal capability and long-term resilience.

4.2 Emissions Inventory Summary

In 2019, GDC commissioned AECOM NZ Ltd to calculate its corporate GHG inventory for the FY 18/19. This was the first time GDC had undertaken a GHG inventory, the results of which meant GDC could confidently understand the extent of its emissions.

The FY 18/19 GHG inventory became GDC's baseline year. The emissions baseline year is a reference point in time against which emission reductions in the future are measured. It provides a point against which GDC can measure any changes in emissions, and these can be compared over time.

In 2025, AECOM was again commissioned to complete the GHG inventory for FY 23/24.

GDC's FY 23/24 carbon footprint including GHL was estimated to be 68,096 tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (t CO_2e). Excluding GHL, GDC's footprint was 48,892 t CO_2e.

Comparison between the two inventories has been challenging due to changes in accounting methodology, particularly for Scope 3 emissions. However, in October 2025, the base year was recalculated to include comparable Scope 3 sources.

A full list of sources and emissions are outlined in Appendix B.

Table 3: GDC Total GHG Emissions by Source, excluding GHL

GDC's Emission by Source (Excluding GHL)	Original FY 18/19 t CO_2e	Updated FY 18/19 t CO_2e	FY 23/24 t CO_2e
Scope 1 – Direct emissions	14,477	14,477	11,528
Scope 2 – Indirect emissions from purchased energy	857	857	598
Scope 3 – Other indirect emissions	5,604	21,093	36,766
GDC Total Emissions	20,937	36,426	48,892

In FY 18/19, emissions from the updated inventory were primarily from capital goods and projects (43%) and landfills (37%), with Paokahu landfill alone responsible for over 12,000 tCO_2e.

In FY 23/24, emissions were primarily from capital goods and projects, followed by waste collection services, Paokahu landfill and wastewater treatment. See Appendix B for full inventory and Figure 2.

4.3 Priority Areas

Priority for intervention is based on GDC's emissions inventories from 2019 (base year) and 2024. The 2024 emissions per category are summarized in the graph below. See Appendix B for the full inventory.

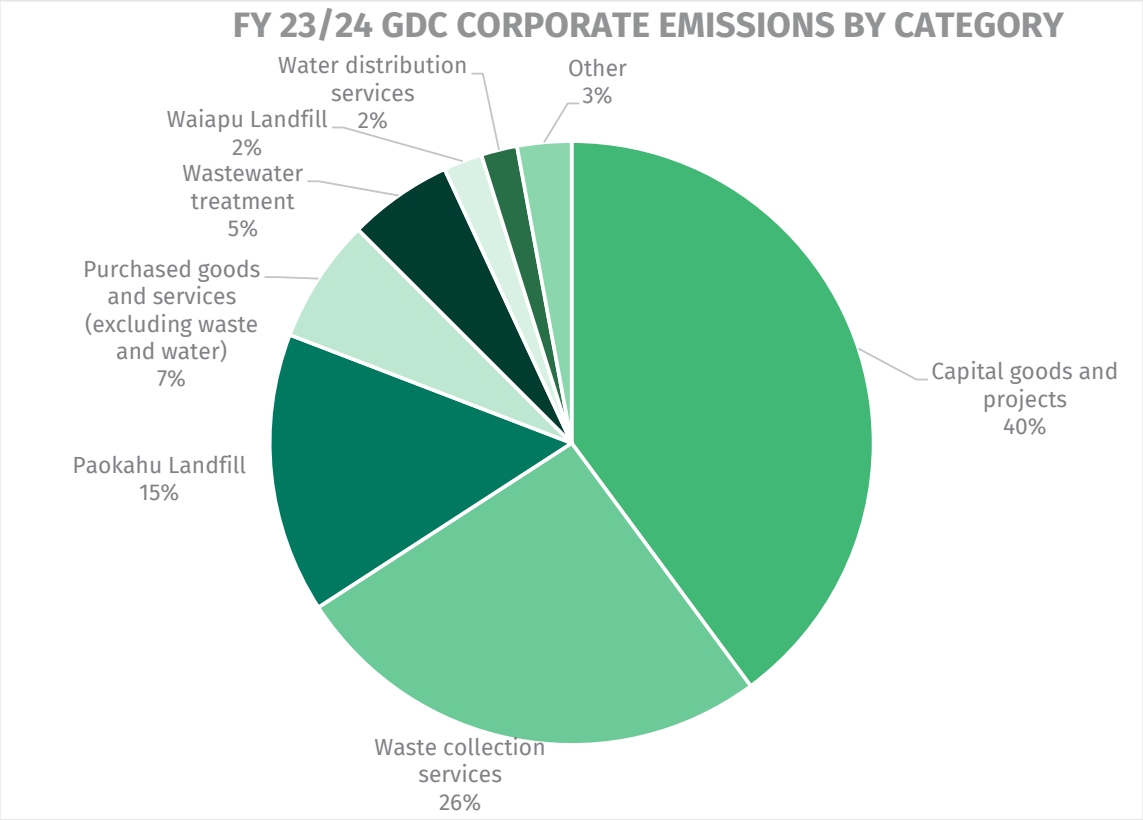


Figure 2: FY 23/24 GDC Corporate Emissions by Category (excl. CCTO), from AECOM report 2025

In both emissions inventories, capital goods and purchased goods and services are the largest emissions sources – 75% in FY 23/24 and 55% in FY 18/19. Note that waste collection services and water distribution services are both counted as "purchased goods and services", but they have been separated out for this graph because they are materially different to most other purchased goods and services and account for a significant part of the total emissions profile.

This is followed by fugitive emissions (landfill, wastewater treatment, refrigerants) of which 17% (in FY 23/24) and 36% (in FY 18/19) are from the landfills. In FY 23/24 Paokahu landfill accounted for 15% of total emissions (7,324 tCO_2e), Waiapu landfill accounted for 2% (942 tCO_2e), and wastewater treatment emissions were 5% (2,734). Reducing landfill methane and improving wastewater systems present the most impactful opportunities for Scope 1 emissions reductions.

Also contributing to Scope 1 emissions is the use of fossil fuels for stationary energy (such as diesel generators and natural gas) and fleet fuel. Reductions in these areas can be

achieved through fuel switching where feasible, as well as through fleet upgrades and vehicle optimisation programmes.

Scope 2 emissions from purchased electricity and accounted for 1% (898 t CO_2e) in FY 23/24. Implementing energy efficiency measures and then investing in decarbonisation present effective opportunities for a low carbon future.

While not fully captured in the emissions inventory, building and construction (including infrastructure) offer key opportunities for emissions reduction. Nationally, embodied carbon from materials and construction can contribute up to 20% of New Zealand's footprint. Including embodied emissions will also clarify the impact of emissions generated by contractors and sub-contractors undertaking projects on GDC's behalf.

Similarly, waste collection services accounted for a large proportion of emissions in FY 23/24 (12,694 tCO2e) but was relatively small in FY 18/19. Though it accounts for less than 1% of the total inventory in FY 18/19, it should be prioritised, as the annual average may be much higher. While Cyclone Gabrielle contributed to the higher waste collection emissions in FY 23/24, future severe weather events and natural disasters will occur, so this should not be dismissed as an outlier year.

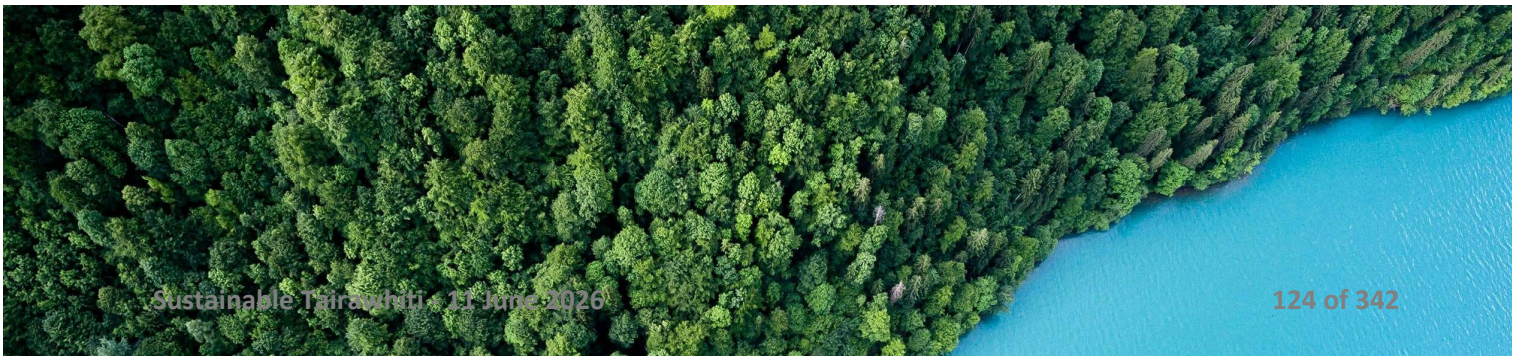
In addition, land use and forestry should be included in the inventory and emissions reduction plan. GDC's Waingake Restoration Project, launched in 2018, protects critical infrastructure, enhances biodiversity and cultural values, and helps neutralise emissions through increased carbon sequestration. The same benefits can be achieved with forestry conversion and native planting on other lands. Investing early in carbon sequestration projects will allow GDC to neutralise any residual emissions that it has not been able to reduce by 2050, and therefore still reach net-zero.

Finally, GDC is committed to taking a leadership position on climate action in Tairāwhiti. The actions undertaken under this plan will be an example of Council's commitment in this space. By improving emissions monitoring, integrating GHG considerations into procurement, and collaborating with stakeholders to support a low-carbon regional economy, GDC will lead by example and bring the community along on the journey.

4.4 Boundaries – Exclusion of GHL From Plan

Although GHL is 100% GDC owned, it is managed by an independent board of directors. The Council has the ability to set strategic objectives for GHL, but not to directly control their operations. In line with this relationship, it was decided to exclude GHL from the emissions reduction plan, but to ensure they also commit to emissions reduction targets and goals. This is similar to what other councils across the country are doing. GHL (and any other CCTOs) are excluded from Council's targets and Emissions Reduction Plan but the strategic objectives will be included in the Statement of Intent (SOI).

GHL currently measure their organisational GHG emissions, with FY 23/24 as their base year. They are also completing an emissions reduction plan.



4.5 Ensuring a Just and Equitable Transition

To ensure GDC's corporate emissions reduction delivers real emission reductions for Tairāwhiti while safeguarding community affordability, it is important to embed tangata whenua roles in decision-making and project delivery, carefully sequence actions to avoid undue cost burdens, and integrate climate adaptation alongside mitigation actions.

Guiding commitments:

- Part 7 Volume 2 of the 2024-2027 Three Year Plan promotes and facilitates Māori participation in Council's decision-making processes. In this process we recommend Māori participation in the emissions reduction process through active leadership roles in the governance team.
- Prioritise "efficiency first" solutions. Council's regional policy statement highlights that improving energy efficiency reduces both financial and environmental costs and should be pursued before new supply, with in-house audits noted as a practical way to deliver real savings to ratepayers. GDC can take this approach with prioritising energy audits for their building stock.
- Consider affordability in all transitions. The TRMP notes support for national renewable energy and transport initiatives "subject to affordability," and that the cost of providing networks is especially important for remote areas with few users. This should be considered when GDC plans new infrastructure related to emission reductions.

Practical management steps to achieve this are laid out below:

- Invite Iwi representatives to participate in the Climate Steering Group, co-design and implement the emissions reduction programme.
- Consider opportunities to partner with iwi and hapū on emissions reduction projects (e.g. whenua restoration, community transport pilots, waste minimisation initiatives).
- Establish a community-based, contestable fund for communities to lead local emissions reduction initiatives (e.g., home energy upgrades, repair and reuse hubs), building on the TRMP's advocacy for such funds; note that this may relate more to regional emissions reduction than corporate emissions reduction.

Projects can be reviewed prior to implementation to consider in more detail:

- "Efficiency first" investments (public buildings, social housing retrofits, pump and lighting upgrades) to reduce emissions and cut bills - delivering savings to ratepayers and aligning with TRMP principles.
- Co-benefits in health and resilience by reducing air pollutants and greenhouse gases (including methane from landfills), aligning climate and public health goals, public/private charging facilities.

The projects that are likely to put costs on users or ratepayers include:

- Waste and circular economy

  Changes to kerbside services could shift costs to households. Design pricing to avoid regressive impacts and pair with waste minimisation, recovery, reuse, and recycling

measures highlighted in the TRMP's energy/waste policy linkages and in the Waste Minimisation and Management Plan.

- Industry decarbonisation

  Process heat and emissions controls may increase business compliance costs in buildings owned and leased out by Council. Use advisory support, phasing, and access to co-funding (e.g., with EECA) to keep costs manageable.

Practical means to manage cost impacts of projects on the community are listed below. Note that these are initial ideas and should be further investigated and developed by the steering committee.

- Rates impact test and sequencing:
  - Apply an "Affordability and Equity Test" to significant proposed climate projects. Projects proceed if:
    - They do not push average household rates impacts beyond agreed thresholds for low-income deciles.
    - They deliver net savings to households or operating cost reductions for Council over a defined payback.
    - They have credible co-funding or cost-recovery that protects vulnerable users.
  - Sequence "win-win" measures first - especially energy efficiency, which the TRMP highlights as reducing both financial and environmental costs.
- Targeted relief and protections:
  - Hardship supports for essential services (e.g. "lifeline" waste allocations or fee credits) and time-limited rebates for low-income households where climate projects introduce user charges.
- Project reprioritisation pathways:
  - If affordability thresholds are breached or rates pressure becomes acute, defer or scale back projects with lower emissions impact per dollar and advance those with immediate household savings or high co-funding leverage.

By embedding tangata whenua leadership, protecting households from cost shocks, and sequencing "efficiency first" actions, Council can reduce emissions while advancing community wellbeing and affordability.

5. Setting a Target

5.1 Science Based Targets

Setting a clear emissions reduction target provides direction and accountability, and demonstrates leadership and progress to the community. One approach to setting an emission reduction target is to align with the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) by setting a science-based target[1]. This approach provides a path to reduce emissions that is based on global climate science. Targets are considered science-based if they are in line with what the latest climate science deems necessary to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement – limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

Using the methodology of the Science Based Targets Initiative, GDC must set a reduction target that covers at least 95% of Scope 1 and 2 emissions. If Scope 3 emissions account for more than 40% of total emissions, a Scope 3 target is required.

5.2 Recalculating the Base Year

As the FY 23/24 emissions profile shows that Scope 3 emissions accounted for approximately 40% of total emissions, we recommended recalculating the FY 18/19 inventory to include comparable Scope 3 emissions.

> *"If a company's relevant Scope 3 emissions are 40 % or more of total Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3 emissions, they shall be included in near-term science-based targets."*
>
> SBTi Corporate Near-Term Criteria (V5.2). (2025). C4.

Recalculating the base year is appropriate given that a significant portion of Scope 3 data in FY 23/24 is expenditure based, making retrospective estimation feasible. Recalculation is the preferred method to ensure methodological consistency and comparability across reporting years.

In October 2025, the GDC Climate Change Team recalculated the FY 18/19 emissions inventory to incorporate comparable Scope 3 categories, specifically 'capital goods' and 'purchased goods and services', thereby aligning the baseline inventory with the FY 23/24 methodology. They used the methodology followed by AECOM in the FY 23/24 inventory to ensure consistency.

5.3 Near-Term & Long-Term Targets

The below suggested targets are set in line with the following Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) methodology:

- The Cross-Sector Absolute Contraction Approach
- 2019 base year
- 2030 or 2035 near term target
- 2040, 2045 or 2050 long term target.

[1] https://sciencebasedtargets.org/

Using these criteria, the proposed targets include:

5.3.1 Near Term Target Options

GDCs commits to reduce Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions by 67% by either 2030 or 2035 from base year (1.5°C)

Or

GDCs commits to reduce Scope 1 & 2 emissions by 67% and Scope 3 emissions by 40%, by either 2030 or 2035 from base year (2°C)

Both near-term options still require GDC to achieve net zero by its long-term target year.

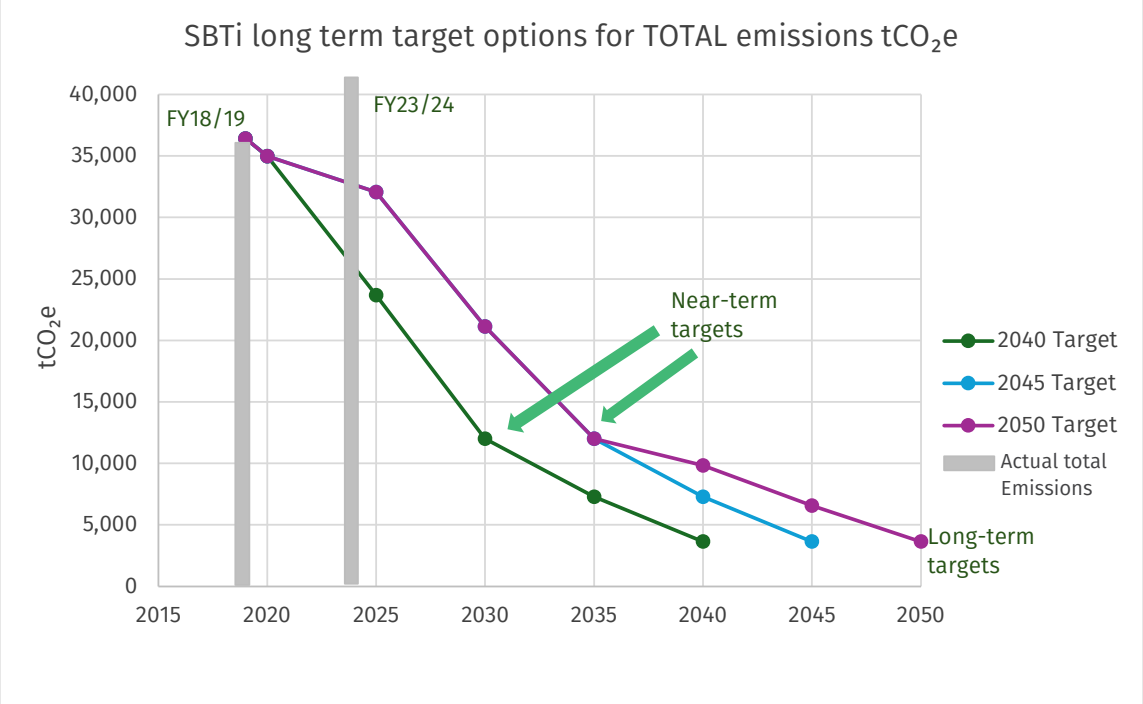
1.5°C means limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and 2°C means limiting global warming to 2°C above pre-industrial levels.

5.3.2 Long Term Target Option A

GDC commits to reduce Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions by either 2040, 2045 or 2050. This long-term target assumes a 67% total emissions reduction in the near term.

The below graph shows 3 different long term target trajectories – 2040, 2045 and 2050 – with the near-term target at 67% reduction from base year.

Figure 3: Long term target options for TOTAL emissions tCO_2e



This table shows the quantities and percentages used in the graph above including the tCO_2e reduction and the reduction % required to meet the proposed targets.

Table 4: Long term reduction quantities and percentages for TOTAL emissions tCO_2e

Target Year	2040 trajectory	2045 trajectory	2050 trajectory
2019	36,426 (Baseline)	36,426 (Baseline)	36,426 (Baseline)
2020	34,969 (-4%)	34,969 (-4%)	34,969 (-4%)
2025	23,677 (-35%)	32,055 (-12%)	32,055 (-12%)
2030	12,021 (-67%)	21,127 (-42%)	21,127 (-42%)
2035	7,285 (-80%)	12,021 (-67%)	12,021 (-67%)
2040	3,643 (-90%)	7,285 (-80%)	9,835 (-73%)
2045	—	3,643 (-90%)	6,557 (-82%)
2050	—	—	3,643 (-90%)
Grey Box	Is the SBTi proposed near term targets		
Green Box	Is the SBTi proposed long term targets		

5.3.3 Long Term Target Option B

GDC commits to reduce Scope 1, 2 & 3 emissions by either 2040, 2045 or 2050. This long-term target assumes a 67% total emissions reduction of Scope 1 & 2 and 40% reduction in Scope 3 in the near term.

The below 2 graphs shows 3 different long term target trajectories – 2040, 2045 and 2050 – with the near-term target at 67% reduction for Scope 1&2, and 40% reduction for Scope 3.

Figure 4: Long term target options for TOTAL emissions tCO_2e Scope 1 & 2

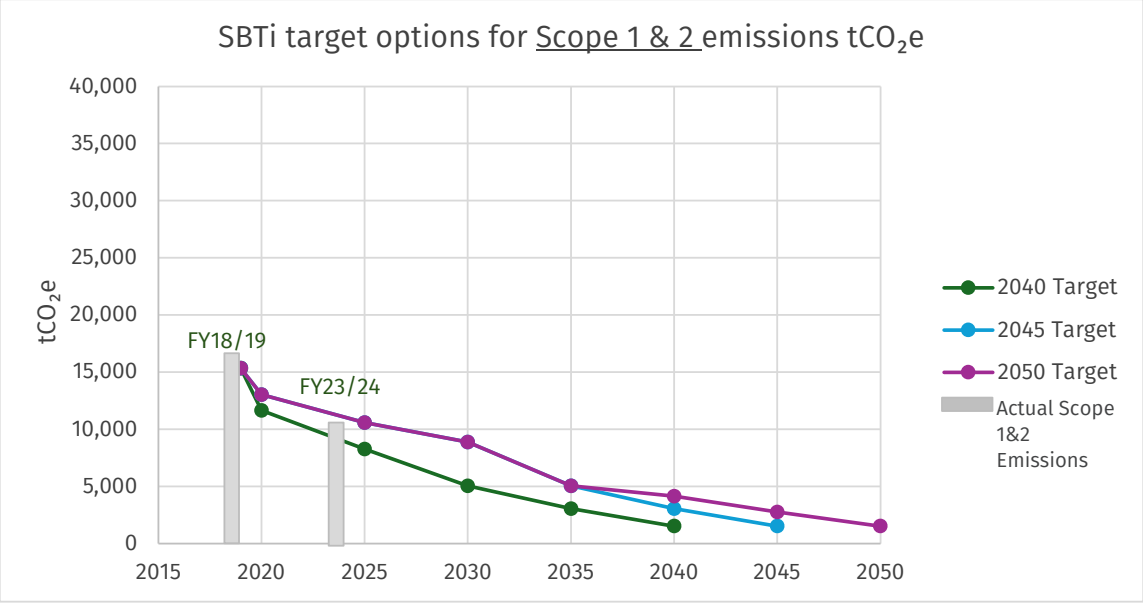
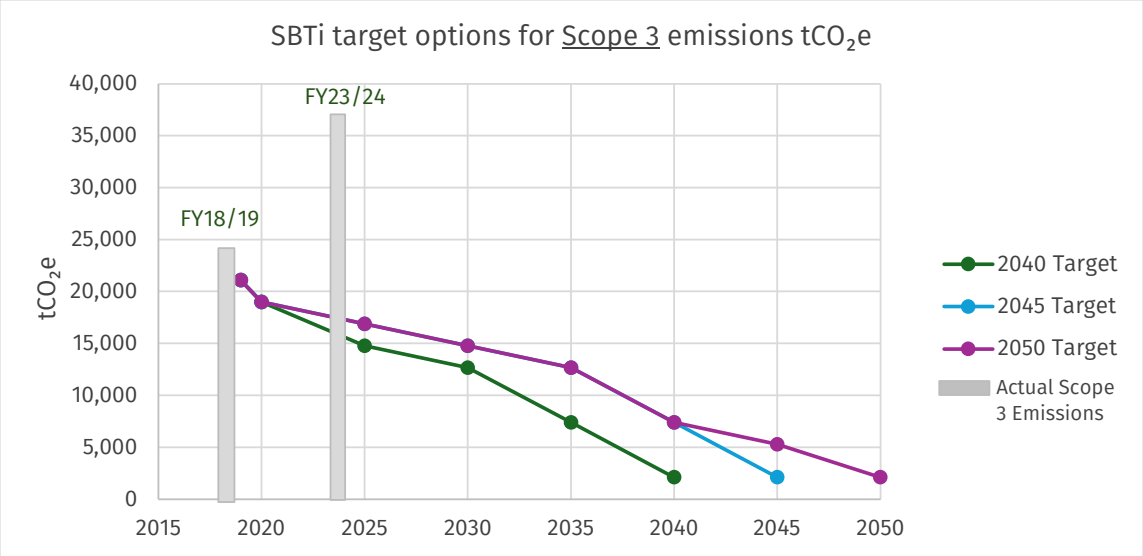


Figure 5: Long term target options for TOTAL emissions tCO_2e Scope 1 & 2



Regardless of the target year, achieving net zero will require strong leadership to drive transformation, align policy and investment, and embed change across all divisions.

5.3.4 Notes on Residual Emissions – the last 10%

These targets indicate the degree of emission reductions GDC need to ultimately reach to achieve net-zero under the SBTI's criteria. Most companies will need to reduce emissions at least 90% to reach net-zero. These targets must be achieved no later than 2050.

"Not all companies will be able to achieve complete decarbonization and therefore some residual emissions may remain. These emissions must be neutralized to reach net-zero emissions…The use of carbon credits must not be counted as emission reductions toward the progress of companies' near-term or long-term science-based targets."

SBTi Corporate Net-Zero Standard V1.3 September 2025

Initiatives such as Waingake Restoration Project, natural burial sites, and an increase in the planting on other GDC owned land could address the remaining 10%. This ERP includes detail on the level of carbon sequestration investment needed to achieve this.

More information about the Science Based Targets Tool is available here.

To access lower interest rates through the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) Climate Action Loans, councils must demonstrate they are actively reducing greenhouse gas emissions by setting science-based targets and implementing an emissions reduction plan. This incentive-based lending model encourages meaningful climate action by linking financial benefits to measurable emissions reductions — with science-based targets being a key eligibility criterion.

6. Emissions Reduction Actions

Below are the actions GDC can take to begin to reduce emissions at an organisational level and facilitate a reduction in city wide GHG emissions. The 26 actions are grouped into six priority areas and presented in a summary table after each of them.

6.1 Waste

6.1.1 Paokahu closed landfill
6.1.2 Waiapu landfill
6.1.3 Waste collection services
6.1.4 Corporate waste audit
6.1.5 Corporate waste minimisation plan
6.1.6 Wastewater treatment plant

6.2 Energy

6.2.1 Audit
6.2.2 Efficiency
6.2.3 Decarbonisation

6.3 Transport

6.3.1 Conversion to electric and active transport
6.3.2 Fleet optimisation
6.3.3 EV charging infrastructure
6.3.4 Flexible working and sustainable staff commuting
6.3.5 Decarbonise public transport

6.4 Building and construction

6.4.1 Measure infrastructure and capital project emissions
6.4.2 Building certification
6.4.3 Sustainable design and construction policy

6.5 Leadership

6.5.1 Measure and report emissions regularly
6.5.2 Software
6.5.3 Sustainable procurement and life cycle management
6.5.4 Investing in reductions
6.5.5 Communications and engagement
6.5.6 Integrate reduction targets into GDC planning

6.6 Land

6.6.1 Waingake Restoration Project
6.6.2 Increase carbon sequestration on GDC land
6.6.3 Cremation and burial

All costs and emissions reductions have been estimated, and further work is required to confirm more accurate costings (e.g. through energy audits and feasibility studies).

6.1 Waste

Previous GDC Emissions Reduction Plans have included the minimisation and treatment of waste collected from the community. In line with AECOM's approach to GDC's corporate greenhouse gas emissions inventory, we have excluded community waste from this ERP. This document focuses on reducing only emissions associated with waste generated by Council activities, rather than household, industrial and commercial waste.

Other GDC waste projects that primarily focus on community waste but will have implications for corporate waste include:

- Regional Resource Recovery Centre and Transfer Station. Detailed design due November 2025.
- 2025-2031 Waste Management and Minimisation Plan. See more information in Sections 6.1.4 and 6.1.5.
- Other landfill remediation projects, e.g. Tokomaru Bay (disposal site is in Central Hawke's Bay). 17 confirmed and approximately 10 unconfirmed additional landfill sites requiring remediation. We recommend a policy or management plan to guide the management and remediation of these sites, prioritising environmentally safe and low-emissions options. The Ministry for the Environment has prioritised heritage landfill sites using a risk assessment nation-wide; six sites in Gisborne require urgent work that has yet to be completed.

Paokahu and Waiapu landfills represent significant sources of methane emissions within Gisborne District Council's operational boundary. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, and reducing emissions from these sites remains a priority for long-term emissions reductions. As previously reported, Paokahu Closed Landfill accounts for the majority of the Council's waste sector emissions. Waiapu, an operational landfill located in Ruatoria, is scheduled for closure in the coming months. This section outlines the current status of these landfills, progress since the last report, and updated estimates for potential emissions reduction interventions.

6.1.1 Paokahu Closed Landfill

The now closed Paokahu landfill operated between 1974 and 2002. Located in Awapuni, it covers an area of about 20ha. It is currently being managed under a resource consent which expires around 2035; water quality testing is required, but not methane or greenhouse gas emissions testing. Paokahu landfill is on Māori freehold land and is currently managed by the Paokahu Trust. As such GDC does not have complete operational control over the landfill or its emissions. The recommendations below should be presented to the Trust; if mitigation action cannot be agreed upon and implemented, GDC may choose to review its decision to include the landfill in its organisation GHG inventory; noting that the inventory organisational boundary is 'Operational.'

In its lifetime, the site received approximately one million cubic metres (m^3) of mixed, domestic, agricultural, and industrial wastes. Methane emissions from the landfill are estimated according to the IPCC first order decay model in Figure 4 below.

No further monitoring or intervention has occurred at Paokahu since the 2018 surface gas emissions survey, which measured only isolated methane concentrations at the surface, with most locations recording zero emissions. However, a significant localised reading (5% methane by volume) was observed near a monitoring well, indicating the presence of subsurface landfill gas.

As in Figure 4, emissions peaked a few years after the closure and now will continue to progressively decrease. It is difficult to ascertain whether mounting a landfill gas capture operation at this stage is still productive. The most effective way of establishing this is by establishing test wells and then performing a pumping/flaring trial.

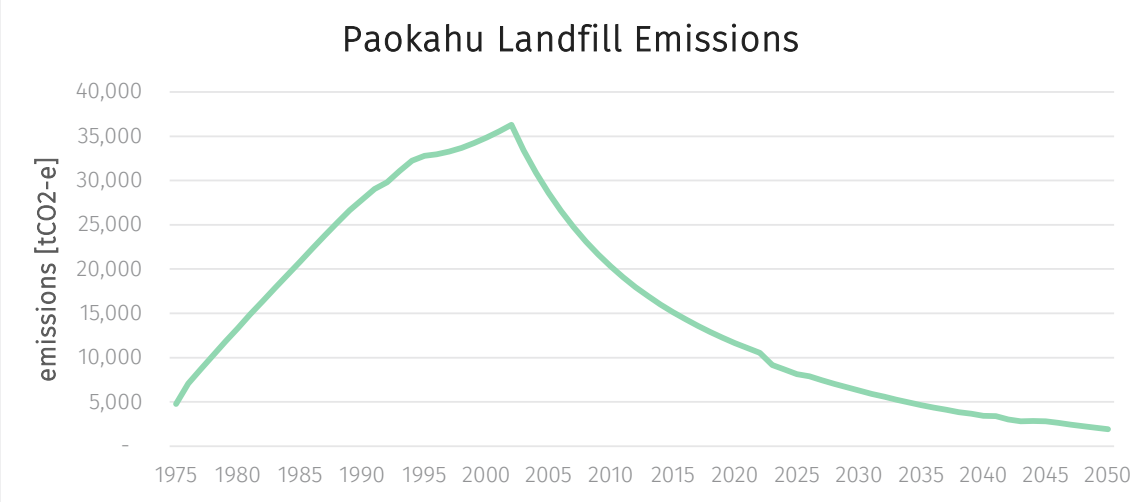


Figure 6: Paokahu landfill carbon emissions according to IPCC first order decay model

Although surface measurements conducted in 2018 suggested that methane is not broadly escaping through the landfill cap, the survey does not confirm that landfill gas generation has ceased. Given that Paokahu was closed in the early 2000s, methane production is expected to be declining but may be ongoing. A pilot investigation has been recommended to assess whether gas capture and flaring could be feasible to reduce methane emissions from this site, and we still recommend that this occurs.

As of 2025, GDC is currently reviewing a new aftercare management plan for Paokahu. This review will analyse the previous consent conditions, to determine whether the right tests

are occurring frequently enough and identify what should be included in a new management plan.

Further, several bores are broken, and work is underway to identify which need to be replaced. We recommend doing methane testing at the same time as the bores are tested and replaced. The methane study needs to be sub-surface.

Next steps:

- Update the landfill gas generation model with site-specific waste and decay data
- Commission a feasibility study, including:
    - Subsurface gas monitoring through test wells
    - A gas extraction and flaring pilot

Paokahu continues to represent a major portion of the Council's landfill-related emissions. Accurate assessment of current gas generation is required to determine if mitigation infrastructure is justified to support climate action goals.

6.1.2 Waiapu Landfill

Waiapu is an active landfill located in Ruatoria, serving the East Coast region. It is scheduled for closure in the near term, with the resource consent expiring during 2025. Planning for its post-closure management is now underway and while emissions reduction may be much less than the Paokahu emissions, they are still significant and will contribute significantly to the council's emissions reduction. A 2016 MFE report (ETS Landfill Exemptions Operation Policy Report) estimated the emissions for Waiapu at 1,100T CO_2e per year.

Next steps:

- Update the landfill gas generation model with site-specific waste and decay data
- Include gas management and emissions monitoring as part of the aftercare planning
- Assess whether methane generation modelling or pilot testing is warranted based on waste volumes and composition

While Waiapu is significantly smaller than Paokahu, it presents an opportunity to integrate modern closure and emissions control practices, potentially avoiding the uncertainty now faced at Paokahu.

Tonkin & Taylor Ltd have previously undertaken some assessment at this site and may be able to undertake the update to the model as well as design the test well and flaring operations.

The table below summarises the estimated implications of the proposed tasks, with suggested timelines, for both the Paokahu and Waiapu landfills.

LANDFILL METHANE CAPTURE		1. MODEL REVIEW / FEASABILITY STUDY	2.SITE TESTING	3.FLARE OR RECOVERY
PRIORITY	Paokahu	A		
	Waiapu	A		
COST	Paokahu	$5.5k	$100k - $200k	$0.5M - $2M
	Waiapu	$5.5k	$50k-100k	$100k - $1M
TIMING	Paokahu	Dec 2025	June 2026	Jan 2027
	Waiapu	Dec 2025	June 2026	Jan 2027
EMISSION REDUCTION	Paokahu	5,000 tCO_2e per year, pending investigation (41% reduction from FY 18/19)		
	Waiapu	500 tCO_2e per year, pending investigation (49% reduction from FY 18/19)		
LEAD DEPARTMENT		Liveable Communities– Solid Waste		

Background research is attached in Appendix C.

6.1.3 Optimisation of Waste Collection Services

In the FY 23/24 inventory, waste collection services produced 12,694 t CO_2e (26% of total emissions). 10,393 t CO_2e (82%) of these emissions is from 'special projects', which encompasses the cleanup and disposal of debris following Cyclone Gabrielle in February 2023. The remaining 2,301 t CO_2e (18%) is contributed to the following waste management operations and costs:

- Materials & services
- Rubbish removal
- Tip fees
- Litter bin contract collection
- Litter bins – illegal dumping
- Cleaning public areas
- Transfer stations
- Tip face
- Landfill aftercare costs

In FY 18/19, waste collection services only accounted for 1% of total emissions; further emissions inventories will be required to calculate an average over time. We recommend prioritising reducing waste collection emissions, despite the low FY 18/19 figure, because this source was significant in FY 23/24.

Business-as-usual waste management

The following actions are recommended to reduce GHG emissions from GDC's waste collection services:

- **Minimise waste at its source**
  GDC's regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan will contribute to lower waste production. Reducing waste will lead to lower volumes heading to landfill, and reduced collection frequency. The Waste Minimisation and Management Plan must

also include a plan for public education to prevent illegal dumping, thereby reducing emissions associated with the cleanup. For more on this plan, see Section 6.1.5.

- **Electric transport and equipment**
  Replace diesel rubbish trucks and equipment at the tip face and transfer stations with electric alternatives as viable options become available. This will significantly reduce fuel consumption, reducing operating costs and GHG emissions.
- **Optimise collection routes and tip face / transfer station operations**
  Work with waste collection contractors to optimise collection routes, to reduce vehicle kilometres travelled and fuel consumption. Also work with teams at transfer stations and the tip to ensure effective and efficient use of equipment, minimising fuel consumption. If not already in use, investigate rubbish compactors at locations that produce large volumes of waste, to reduce the frequency of waste collection trips.
- **Sustainable procurement**
  Follow sustainable procurement processes recommended in this report for materials, services, cleaning supplies and infrastructure. When the waste collection service contracts come up for renewal, include GHG reduction clauses and KPIs.
- **Improve data collection for GHG inventory**
  The FY 23/24 inventory uses dollar spend data to estimate GHG emissions from waste collection services. Work with contractors to collect quantity and kilometre data to improve accuracy.

Special projects and waste cleanup post-disaster

GDC's annual special projects budget exists to pay for clean-up following extreme weather events and natural disasters; approximately $2m is budgeted each year. Cyclone Gabrielle was an unprecedented storm, and resulted in record amounts of slash, debris and silt that required cleanup by GDC. While Cyclone Gabrielle was extremely rare and an event of this magnitude is not anticipated to reoccur soon, other significant storms requiring cleanup do and will occur. These storms will occur more frequently and with greater severity as the impacts of climate change set in. As a result, while emissions associated with waste 'special projects' will likely be lower in following years, there will continue to be associated emissions that require management.

GDC currently has plans in place for disaster and emergency response, including waste and debris management. We recommend revising these plans to ensure that they integrate GHG emissions reduction planning. This may include a list of pre-approved contractors who have been engaged through the sustainable procurement process recommended in this report. Also ensure Standard Operating Procedures and policies for the most environmentally appropriate and low-emissions methods for waste removal and management are in place, and staff are familiar with these.

In-region disposal options

Gisborne currently trucks its landfill waste to an out-of-region landfill for disposal. This is because there are currently no open landfills to receive municipal waste. As a result, transport emissions associated with waste disposal are high.

The Solid Waste team has indicated that development of an in-region landfill could take 7-10 years to complete. We recommend a feasibility study to identify whether a new landfill or a waste-to-energy system might provide Tairawhiti a lower-emissions waste disposal option.

OPTIMISE WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES	
PRIORITY	A
COST	TBC, include at least +1 FTE in Solid Waste team. Estimated $100k for Marginal Abatement Cost Curve Analysis
TIMING	2027
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	~205 tCO_2e per year (50% reduction from FY 18/19; note that FY 23/24 was significantly higher) Demonstration of Leadership to the Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities – Solid Waste

6.1.4 Corporate Waste Audit

Reducing waste at its source is an important step in reducing emissions. While operational waste and recycling contribute a very small proportion of GDC's GHG inventory, the other environmental impacts from waste have not been quantified and remain problematic. In FY 18/19, operational waste to landfill was 1,924 kg CO_2e (7,943 kgs of rubbish), and operational mixed recycling was 1,366 kgCO_2e (4,020 kgs of recycling). The makeup of this waste is important, as different waste types produce different emissions, and have different opportunities to reduce emissions from their disposal. For example, emissions could be reduced by composting staff room food waste instead of sending it to landfill. GDC aims to better understand the quantity and types of their waste by conducting a waste audit across its facilities.

The findings of the audit will be used to create a Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan (CWMP) (see Section 6.1.5). The waste audit will provide specific, accurate data that will provide a baseline to track progress against over time. It will identify opportunities to reduce waste, save costs, and improve recycling and diversion efforts for Council waste. Good communication of the audit findings and subsequent plan can enhance staff engagement and public accountability.

The audit may also improve the quality of data collected and used for GDC's corporate emissions inventory. Currently the waste emissions from only two sites are included in the inventory, and this may be using a dollar-based emissions factor rather than a weight-based one. This may be causing an underestimate of true waste emissions, which can be remedied with improved data.

The audit may be completed by a team of trained GDC staff members, or a contractor. It should be robust, repeatable, and include all facilities within GDC's control that generate waste. We recommend that it is repeated regularly to track the progress of the CWMP. Timing of the audit should be carefully selected to ensure that the findings represent average conditions (e.g. avoid public and school holidays).

GDC staff have conceptualised three types of waste that they deal with:

1. Community waste – generated by the community, in buildings/areas not owned by GDC. I.e. household, industrial and commercial rubbish and recycling.
2. Waste generated by the community on Council properties – this includes waste collected by Council contractors in parks, reserves, beaches, and sports grounds. Events on Council sites (such as in the rose garden or community halls) are also included in this

category. Council may have an extent of control over how lessees manage waste generated in these areas.

3. **Corporate waste – generated by the occupation and operation of GDC-owned and operated buildings and venues. Places occupied by GDC staff, where they have control over waste management.**

The Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan (see Section 6.1.5 below) will target this third category of waste.

The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan developed separately by GDC will target community waste, and waste generated by the community on Council property.

Based on these three types of waste, the following GDC-owned buildings and venues are to be included in the waste audit and CWMP:

- Main GDC administration building: 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne
- Bank Street wastewater treatment facility
- HB Williams Memorial Library
- Kiwa Pools
- Infrastructure buildings (wastewater treatment plant, and other buildings related to water and other core services)
- Public toilets
- Theatres
- The animal shelter/pound
- Gardens Group depot

GDC staff identified the following waste types they expect to be identified during the waste audit:

- General waste. From main office, especially single-use items, stationary, paper towels, coffee paraphernalia, packaging from IT and couriers.
- Standardised recyclables – paper/card, plastics 1/2/5, aluminium/tin. Some is currently being captured, some going to landfill. Current high contamination rates of recycling bins.
- Tech waste (currently collected and diverted from landfill)
- Green/organic waste (currently worm farms are not in operation; one pig bucket is in operation in one staff room in the main Council building)
- Chemical containers (e.g. chlorine for the pool, chemicals for wastewater treatment plant). Some may have return schemes, e.g. IBCs.
- One sharps bin in the animal shelter, with sharps used for animal microchipping.
- Animal remains from the shelter. Currently frozen and transported to Hawke's Bay for cremation.
- Tyres from vehicles.
- Construction and demolition waste from GDC projects (managed by contractors)
- Appliances from GDC buildings, e.g. old refrigerators and microwaves.

We recommend that corporate building managers be responsible for this action. Waste is generated at each GDC site, and so the staff generating the waste through their day-to-day operations should be responsible for its reduction. This is best managed by the building managers, rather than the Solid Waste team. Another option is a "Green Team" at each site, comprised of staff who are dedicated to running the waste audit and reduction programme.

CORPORATE WASTE AUDIT	
PRIORITY	B
COST	~$20k
TIMING	2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTION	Measurement of waste to inform a Waste Minimisation Plan. Demonstration of Leadership to the Community.
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Corporate Building Managers

6.1.5 Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan

As per the Waste Hierarchy below, the priority in effectively minimising waste is to avoid unnecessary resource use and waste through improved design. To enable the Gisborne community to think differently about resource use and waste, and contribute to a reduction in waste sent to landfill, GDC is currently drafting their Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2025-2031[2]. The Waste Management and Minimisation Plan takes a holistic and high-level approach to reducing waste to landfill and promoting a circular economy across the Tairawhiti region, by outlining the Council's focus for waste management and plan to support the community in waste reduction.

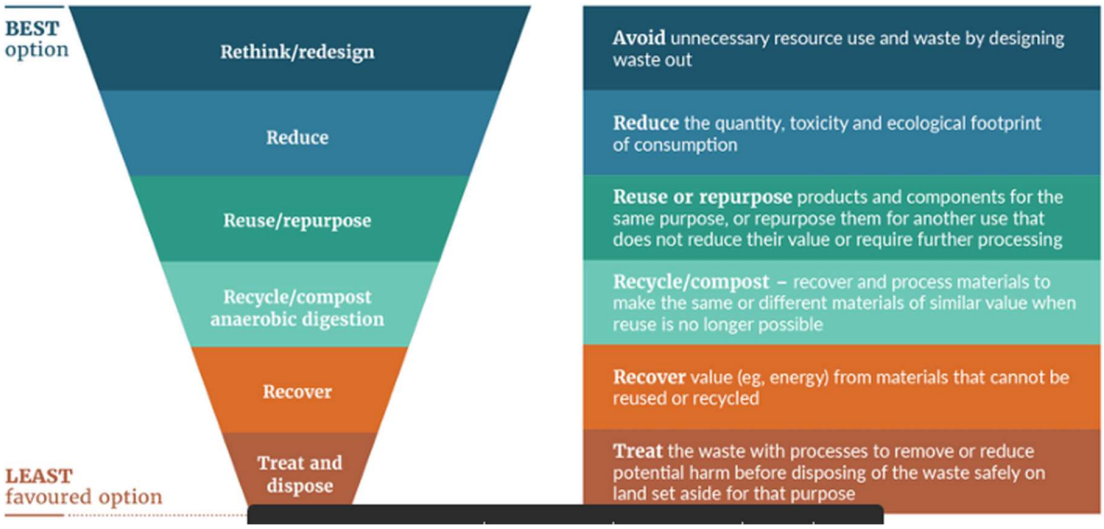


Figure 7: Waste Hierarchy (Source: MfE, Taking responsibility for our waste)

A Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan will complement the regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan, by using the findings of the corporate waste audit (Section 6.1.4) to create a S.M.A.R.T. management plan for waste generated through Council activities. The creation of the Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan, in conjunction with the regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan, will allow Council staff to rethink and reduce the waste generated through their business operations, and find alternatives to landfill for remaining items.

The Corporate Waste Minimisation Plan is to cover all facilities operated by GDC staff that generate waste, as outlined in the plan for the waste audit (Section 6.1.4). It shall include waste reduction targets that align with the regional Waste Minimisation and Management Plan and be reviewed at regular intervals in line with other Council plans.

Some possible initiatives to consider include:

- Banning single-use plastics (e.g. disposable cups, cutlery) at Council offices and events.
- Updating procurement policies to prioritise products with take-back schemes and minimal packaging.

[2] https://www.gdc.govt.nz/environment/waste-minimisation/waste-minimisation

- Requiring contractors and suppliers to comply with GDC waste minimisation standards.
- Providing regular staff training on waste minimisation, recycling, and correct bin use
- Encouraging staff to suggest waste reduction ideas and rewarding successful initiatives.
- Establishing internal reuse systems for office supplies, furniture and IT equipment, or suitable rehoming/recycling options.
- Implementing clear signage and accessible recycling and organic bins in all Council buildings and facilities.
- Rolling out food scrap / organic waste collection and composting at all GDC facilities and identify compost champions to collect waste and look after bins.
- Composting green waste from GDC parks, reserves and gardens.

WASTE MINIMISATION PLAN	
PRIORITY	C
COST	~$5k, can be developed internally or with support of contractor who completes the Waste Audit
TIMING	2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Recommendation: aim for 30% reduction in waste to landfill. 6 tCO_2e per year Other benefits - Reduced waste and costs associated with waste disposal, plus demonstration of leadership to the community.
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities – Solid Waste

6.1.6 Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

GDC owns and operates two wastewater treatment sites:

1. **Gisborne city Wastewater Treatment Plant at Banks Street.**
   Two-stage system: Stage 1: milli-screening, grit removal, Biological Trickling Filters (BTF), followed by Stage 2: clarifier, tertiary filters, UV disinfection, solids removal then ocean outfall. BTF plants have minimal aeration-derived N_2O emissions compared with activated sludge.
   Industrial wastewater has a separate screened line that bypasses the domestic BTF to the outfall under consented trade-waste controls.
2. **Te Karaka township oxidation pond**
   Discharges into the Waipaoa River.

GDC staff have indicated that the WWTP, as it is new, is likely very efficient and any gains to be made are small. The largest GHG reductions are possible by preventing the development of anaerobic zones in the Te Karaka oxidation pond, as these areas emit methane. Mitigation options include:

1. Install a modular cover and flare (or micro-turbine).
   Captures and destroys ~98% of methane. Side benefits include odour control and reduced algal heat-gain.
2. Chemical suppression of methanogenesis (iron-salt "EcoPond-style" dosing).
   The NZ Climate Change Commission summarises trials showing up to ~99% methane reduction in dairy effluent ponds; the chemistry is transferrable enough to justify a small pilot on the municipal pond.
3. Keep the pond more aerobic with low-power mixers/aerators.
   This reduces anoxic volume and methane formation, as well as improving odour and possible stabilising performance of any land discharge transitions.

Mitigation options for the WWTP include:

1. Headworks and side stream odour control tuning (biofilters/scrubbers)
   These will curb any trace of methane or hydrogen sulphide from screenings/grit handling.
2. Network sulphide control (targeted nitrate/iron dosing)
   This will lower hydrogen sulphide (odour/corrosion) and reduce downstream N2O formation risk.

MyImprint recommends a thorough investigation of the sites and a feasibility study to identify most effective options.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT SYSTEM UPGRADE	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Unknown; roughly $100k - $300k for both sites, plus ongoing operating costs.
TIMING	Site investigation in 2026, feasibility in 2027, implementation in 2028
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Combined: 514 $tCO2_2e$ per year (65% reduction)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines – Water Management & Finance and Affordability

6.2 Energy

6.2.1 Corporate Energy Audit

An Energy Audit is an investigation of all facets of an organisation's historical and current energy use. The objective is to identify and quantify areas of energy wastage within the organisation's activities. It establishes the baseline for any improvements in energy use and provides a comprehensive method for targeting cost effective efficiency gains. Usually, it identifies improvement projects that have a two-to-four-year payback.

Energy Audit benefits include actionable insights to:

- Reduce energy use and costs
- Improve sustainability outcomes
- Improve NABERSNZ ratings

ENERGY AUDIT	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$5,000 - $35,000 per site (The objective is for an energy audit will pay for itself in 2-4 years due to the energy savings. An accredited Energy Audit should expect to receive recommendations for savings between 5 – 25%)
TIMING	Audit in 2026, with projects rolling from 2027
SUBSIDY	You can apply for EECA funding which can provide up to 40% of the cost of an energy audit (up to a maximum of $20,000).
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	N/A, but required to plan and implement energy efficiency actions (see section below)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Commercial and Business Development – Asset Managers & Finance and Affordability

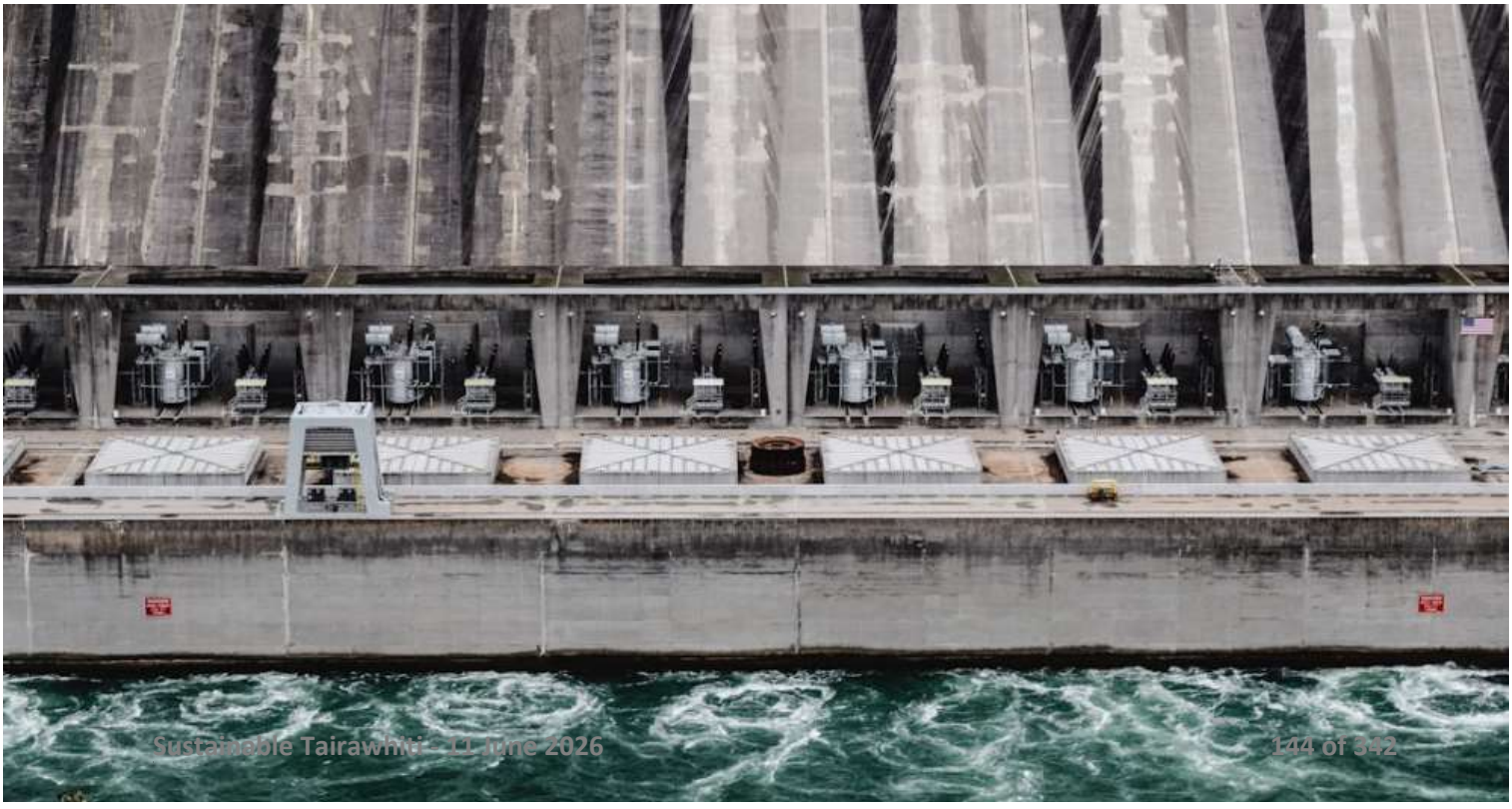
The below sites would benefit from an energy audit. These are estimates:

Table 5: Sites to consider for energy audits

Site	Annual Energy Use (kWh)	Annual Emissions (t CO_2e)	Energy Audit Estimated cost	Anticipated Energy Savings	Estimated Energy Reduction (kWh / annum)	Estimated Emissions Reduction (t CO_2e / annum)
Pool*	2,547,696	249	$10,000 – $25,000	5-15% kwh savings	318,462	31
Wastewater Treatment Plant	1,590,508	155	$15,000 – $35,000	10-25% kwh savings	318,102	31
Water Supply	876,424	86	$15,000 – $35,000	15-25% kwh savings	175,285	17
15 Fitzherbert (Main office)*	331,600	32	$2,000 – $6,000	15-25% kwh savings	66,320	6
Library	181,100	18	$2,000 – $6,000	10-25% kwh savings	36,220	4
Theatres	112,744	11	$5,000 – $10,000	10-25% kwh savings	22,549	2
120 Pensioner flats	840,000	82	$15,000 – $35,000	10-15% kwh savings	105,000	10
TOTAL	**6,480,072**	**633**	**$46,000 – $113,000**		**1,041,937**	**102**

* Based on the previous pool. The new pool would benefit from an energy audit, as the complex was completed after GDC's baseline emissions inventory.

GDC staff have also suggested investigating energy efficiency of IT servers and equipment (e.g. data servers, libraries, theatre gear).



6.2.2 Improve Energy Efficiency

The first step in decarbonisation is ensuring energy efficiency, to minimise energy demand. We recommend GDC follow these steps to maximise energy efficiency across sites. Note that reducing energy consumption will also reduce Scope 3 emissions from transmission and distribution losses.

6.2.2a Implement Efficiencies Identified During Energy Audit

The energy audit will identify opportunities to increase efficiency and reduce energy consumption and associated emissions. Some examples of typical recommendations that come out of energy audits are:

- Upgrade to LED lighting
- Replace or maintain heating/cooling/ventilation systems, including sealing ductwork
- Add or upgrade insulation
- Prevent air leakage by sealing windows and doors
- Replace appliances with more energy-efficient models
- Install programable thermostats, timers and sensors to control climate and lighting

By making these identified improvements at all the sites where an energy audit was performed, GDC will be able to minimise its energy demand. This will make switching to renewable energy or purchasing energy certificates more cost effective (see Section 6.2.3 below).

Improve energy efficiency across GDC buildings	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Unknown – depends on energy audit findings. Estimated 500k for Marginal Abatement Cost Curve analysis.
TIMING	2026/2027
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Depends on energy audit findings, likely 10-25% reduction (50 tCO_2e, or 675,152 to 1,687,879 kWh for all buildings being recommended for audit)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Commercial and Business Development – Asset Managers

6.2.2b 100% transition to LED streetlights

Traffic and streetlights contribute a significant proportion (18%) of greenhouse gases related to electricity use. In 2015 Council committed to converting streetlights from traditional sodium and metal halide lights to LED. Council has completed 64% of the conversion to date.

100% transition to LED streetlights	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$237,510 to complete
TIMING	Conversion started in 2016
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 100 t CO_2e
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines

6.2.2c Wastewater Treatment Plant, Reticulation and Water Supply

To improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions at wastewater treatment plants and water supply systems, key strategies include installing variable speed drives (VSDs) on pumps, upgrading to high-efficiency motors, and optimising system controls—together saving up to 30% of electricity use. Leak detection in water networks reduces pumping demand, and solar PV (100–300 kW) can offset a further 6–25%. Energy monitoring helps target savings and switching to renewable electricity eliminates remaining Scope 2 emissions after efficiencies have been implemented. Typical payback periods range from 2 to 7 years.

An example of reducing emissions is at Bush Intake, near Waingake water treatment plant, after a landslide damaged the power line. A solar system was installed costing $21,000 (including improving the track), which was less than reinstating the lines.

Other initiatives include reducing the use of chemicals to treat town water supply as chemical use is significant in the emissions profile.

GDC staff also noted that reducing stormwater inflow to the WWTP through the DrainWise Programme is an opportunity to reduce volume and energy consumption at the site.

Wastewater Treatment Plant	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$15,000–$50,000 VSDs (Variable Speed Drives) on aeration blowers, fine bubble diffusers
TIMING	TBC
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 16 t CO_2e (10-25% kwh savings)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines

Wastewater Reticulation	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$20,000–$100,000 various improvements
TIMING	TBC
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 3 t CO_2e (15-25% kwh savings)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines

Water Supply	
PRIORITY	B
COST	Eg $50,000 – $150,000 various improvements
TIMING	TBC
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 13 t CO_2e (15-25% kwh savings)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines

Water Supply - Chemicals	
PRIORITY	B
COST	Unknown
TIMING	TBC
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	TBC – internal work required to assess feasibility
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines

Example initiatives from Councils and Water Utilities to reduce treatment chemical emissions while maintaining drinking-water quality:	
Generate chlorine on site (electro chlorination)	Instead of trucking bulk hypochlorite; Watercare is upgrading Pukekohe WTP to "self-generated chemicals," improving dose control and reducing chlorate formation (less waste, fewer deliveries). Also aligns with guidance that aged bulk hypochlorite forms chlorate.
Use low-carbon primary barriers	Wellington Water treats with UV (and, at some plants, ozone) before residual chlorination; QLDC installed new UV at Glenorchy after the 2023 outbreak. This maintains the multi-barrier approach required by the regulator while allowing lower chlorine doses.
Shift to membranes	Nelson's Tantragee WTP microfiltration "removes all the dirt and bugs," so only a small residual chlorine is needed and "chemical usage [is] further reduced."
Optimise dosing with instrumentation and controls	Wellington Water cut carbon-dioxide dosing for pH control by 30–40% at Te Mārua and Wainuiomata through process optimisation; Te Mārua upgrades also include chlorine dosing improvements. Watercare installed online fluoride analysers fleet-wide to avoid over-/under-dosing.
Protect source	Protect source water to lower treatment demand: Watercare's ongoing Hunua Ranges revegetation is aimed at reducing sediment loads (which drive chemical demand).
Onsite solar	Decarbonise energy that powers treatment (UV/ozone/electro chlorination): Watercare is rolling out solar pilots. Pairing other initiatives with renewable energy lowers the footprint further.
"Lower-carbon" chemicals	Buy "lower-carbon" chemicals and require transparency: Overseas - utilities are beginning to ask for embodied-carbon data/EPDs for chlorine/hypochlorite (e.g., Euro Chlor eco-profile) and include environmental criteria in chemical frameworks; UK utilities' net-zero plans explicitly include supply-chain/consumables. Consider adopting PAS 2080 principles in procurement.

6.2.3 Decarbonise Electricity Use

After energy demand is reduced, fossil fuels and grid electricity can be replaced with cleaner, low-carbon alternatives. Various options for GDC are described in this section.

6.2.3a Solar Energy

Incorporating solar energy is a scalable strategy for reducing emissions from electricity use. For the Pensioner flats, a 3-kW solar system—costing approximately $8,000—can generate 11–15 kWh per day under optimal conditions, offsetting a substantial portion of daily electricity demand. For larger sites like council buildings, systems can be scaled up (e.g., 100–300 kW), significantly reducing grid reliance and Scope 2 emissions. Typical payback periods range from 6 to 10 years.

The long-term Healthy Homes contract on the pensioner flats has allowed some upgrades, such as insulation. However, as the flats are aging, replacement is necessary in the medium term. GDC is in discussions about moving operational control of the flats to a Community Housing Provider, which provides rental subsidies and would allow GDC to fund replacement of the flats in one to two decades. This should be considered when considering solar for flats, and new flats should be built to Green Star standards and include renewable energy.

GHL owns 15 Fitzherbert (main office), but GDC has operational control, so we recommend either working with GHL to instal solar or considering property swaps.

15 Potae Avenue (Civil Defence building) is also GDC owned and may have enough roof space for solar installation as well; we recommend investigating the feasibility of this further. Also, the water treatment plant at Bushmere Road has land, and staff have suggested a solar farm here.

The new Kiwa Pools building has solar panels installed but the power they generate is not covering the demand by the pools. A power spike damaged some inverters, and staff are currently struggling to heat the pool, which is causing unanticipated high costs. We recommend urgently repairing and upgrading this solar power system.

Pensioner Flats – Install Solar	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$960,000Total cost for 120 flats.
TIMING	2030
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 50 t CO_2e (est 60-75% reduction in electricity from the grid)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	TBC

15 Fitzherbert (Main office) – Install Solar	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$300,000 – $400,000 (payback period ranging from 5 to 10 years)
TIMING	2030
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Up to 20 t CO_2e (esti60-75% reduction in electricity from the grid)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Commercial and Business Development – Asset Managers

6.2.3b Energy certificates

In New Zealand, GHG emissions from electricity are one of the lowest in the world, given that about 88% came from renewable energy sources in 2023[3] GHG emissions from electricity use at GDC were less than 1,000 t CO_2e. These will be fluid with future in increases of electric vehicles and fuel switching technologies as well as through improvement projects like lighting.

An alternative way to reduce the emissions coming from electricity is by purchasing Energy Certificates through the New Zealand Energy Certificate System (NZECS). The NZECS enables the transfer of renewable energy production attributes, from renewable generation allowing you to claim that your GHG emissions from electricity are zero. Reasons for investing in energy certificates include:

- Report your Scope 2 emissions as zero
- Supports net zero or carbon neutrality goals
- Enable renewable energy growth in NZ
- Require no infrastructure investment
- Can be scaled up or down annually
- Sends a strong message to stakeholders that your business is serious about sustainability.

An alternative option is switching electricity to a provider such as Ecotricity. This may mean a renegotiation of electricity contracts and may result in an increase of costs.

Eastland Generation (geothermal power) recently offered GDC a Contract for Differences (CFD). Further investigation into opportunities like this and Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) may allow GDC to switch to a renewable energy provider.

INVESTING IN ENERGY CERTIFICATES	
PRIORITY	C
COST	$8.5 per MWH or $134,000* (including all fees) (16,272 MWH in FY 18/19 across all sites excluding GHL)
TIMING	2032
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	450 t CO_2e (Reduce 100% of emissions from electricity after efficiency and solar measures)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability, Climate Change Response

*This cost would be reduced if there are already some sites using suppliers such as Ecotricity.

6.3 Transport

6.3.1 Conversion to Electric Fleet

Council's fleet includes 92 vehicles as of October 2024, of which approximately 67% are utes. They are replaced regularly following the policy criteria of safety, fitness for use and environmental sustainability. Fleet fuel was responsible for about 300 t CO_2e of GHG emissions in 2019. In that same year Council purchased its first electric cars, e-scooters, and e-bikes. Since then, Council have purchased 1 EV, 6 PHEVs and 1 HEV. 3.2L engines have been swapped for 2L engines when these larger vehicles come up for renewal. Emissions reported for fleet fuel for the year ended 30 June 2024 was 394 t CO_2e. Note that direct comparisons between 2019 and 2024's vehicle emissions would require a detailed study of kms travelled each year.

Both EV and PHEV 4WD utes are now available in the New Zealand market, with a strong contender being the BYD Shark PHEV. Ford and Toyota will be releasing models later in 2025, and further models will continue to flow into the market. Additionally, there are numerous options in the market for smaller SUV style vehicles with ranges between 400km and 600km, as well as vans and motorbikes. This indicates that the market now has a range of good options to transition the fleet to more sustainable options.

A draft Vehicle Replacement Policy (Appendix E), draft Vehicle Management Strategy (Appendix F) and draft Vehicle NPV and CFP Calculation Summary (Appendix G) are attached. Making updates to the existing documents is considered an important step in aligning the management processes for the vehicles with the long-term emission reduction goals.

Green By Nature (contractor) currently uses EV vans, and the company could be a great good-news-story to share within GDC.

Tractors and mowers should also be considered for potential replacement.

CONVERSION TO EVs, PHEVs, HEVs, BIKES AND ELECTRIC SCOOTERS	
PRIORITY	B
COST	Capital Costs – Additional outlay of approx. $70k per year (total $700k over 10 years) Running Costs – Cost reductions of approx. $20k in Yr 1, $40k in Yr 2, $60k in Yr 3 etc… through to 2035 (total cost savings of $1.1M over 10 years). Increase in electricity costs.
TIMING	Conversion already started, aim to complete by 2030
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	250 t CO_2e annually (80%) Demonstration of Leadership to the Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability - Fleet Asset Manager

6.3.2 Optimisation and Improved Access to Pool Vehicles

GDC currently has three pool vehicles which are available for general use, two of which are PHEVs (Mitsubishi Outlanders), and one is an EV (Nissan Leaf). It is clear that with such a large staff base this is an insufficient number of pool vehicles to provide access for general use. We can see also that the total vehicle stock has grown significantly in the last few years from around 75 to nearly 100, potentially driven by the lack of general access.

An optimisation of the vehicle stock and providing easy access to low-emissions pool vehicles is therefore a key element in reducing overall vehicle emissions. EROADS metrics will be key in this process. As part of this process, we recommend that the pool vehicle base is significantly expanded, to 30-50% of the vehicle base, with primarily EV and PHEV options. This will increase general access and useability and drive increased use of low-emissions vehicles. While increasing the size of the vehicle pool, we recommend reducing the number of personally assigned vehicles, to avoid increasing the total number of fleet vehicles. Staff members who currently have individual vehicles should be assessed to determine whether they need one, or if they could share within their team or the wider organisation.

Also, we recommend a booking system is utilised, at which point the user will note their destination and the booking system will recommend vehicles with sufficient range only, reducing the likelihood of range issues. Incorporated into the booking system should be notes on how to use EVs and PHEVs, including charging processes, charger locations, vehicle capability including 4WD etc.

Other councils and organisations such as Hawke's Bay Regional Council have already reduced their fleet size and increased their proportion of pool vehicles. We recommend engaging with experienced organisations to identify key learnings.

To incentivise sustainable transport, GDC have introduced x3 e-scooters, bikes, and an e-bike to move between offices. Bike racks at main office are well-used, and shower facilities and towels provided.

OPTIMISATION AND IMPROVED ACCESS TO POOL VEHICLES	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$5-10k
TIMING	2025/2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	N/A - Linked with Conversion Reductions
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability - Fleet Asset Manager

6.3.3 Increase Charging Facilities

GDC currently has three chargers in the carpark at the council building in Fitzherbert Street plus another in Te Puia Springs. With the increased number of electric vehicles, charging capacity will have to be upgraded accordingly. Given the size of the fleet and the forward need for overnight charging, this project should be advanced as a high priority to ensure that sufficient chargers are in place for when the new EV and PHEV vehicles start to arrive.

Ensuring working chargers are well distributed through the network is critical for creating confidence and useability of the pure EV vehicles. Alliances can be formed with FirstLight and partner organisations throughout the region (i.e. Road Maintenance Contract Depots, General Construction Contract Depots, Store supermarkets etc) to ensure there is wide availability. Aligning with partners will also encourage them to make use of the infrastructure and so support them to convert to EV.

Staff have indicated that a charging station could be installed in Te Puia.

Staff have also noted that EV charging cables have been repeatedly stolen. Increasing the security of charging stations or putting small GPS trackers on these cables may be helpful, and a small budget should be considered for their occasional replacement.

UPGRADE EV CHARGERS	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$160k (in LTP)
TIMING	Installation already started, aim to complete by 2028
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	N/A - Linked with Conversion Reductions
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability - Fleet Asset Manager

6.3.4 Incentivise Forms of Flexible Working & Active Transport

A Staff Commute Survey in 2019 established that over 400 t CO_2e were generated from staff travelling to work. Further, almost 70% of staff use private petrol or diesel cars to commute to work.

Time constraints, needing to transport others, and lack of public transport are common reasons for not using public or active transport. In addition, weather, road safety, and needing to use a car during the day were also common.

It is advised to keep promoting forms of flexible working, encourage staff to carpool to commute to work whenever possible, and incentivise public transport, walking or riding bikes to work.

This can be achieved with a mobility budget. Based on the results of the 2025 travel survey, examples of initiatives are:

- Incentives or rewards for using public transport, carpooling, walking or cycling
- Car sharing programs, like carpooling apps
- Bonuses or subsidies for the purchase of electric bikes and scooters
- Subsidies for public transport
- Prioritising or allowing only EV and PHEV vehicles to be taken home by staff
- Allowing use of council vehicles for private use during the day (e.g. lunchtime errands)
- Communal wet weather gear that can be borrowed

Te Whatu Ora Te Matu a Maui, for example, implemented the "Go Well" Travel Plan[4]. It achieved more sustainable modes of transport to reach its facilities for both staff and visitors. The plan was funded through a parking charge of $1/day.

Incentivise forms of Flexible Working and Active Transport	
PRIORITY	B
COST	$0-20,000
TIMING	Implement policies in 2025/2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	133 t CO_2e (30% reduction) Demonstration of Leadership to the Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Internal Partnerships – People & Capability

[4]https://www.ourhealthhb.nz/hospital-services/getting-here-go-well/go-well-travel-plan
http://www.ourhealthhb.nz/hospital-services/find-a-hospital-or-health-centre-near-you/hawkes-bay-fallen-soldiers-memorial-hospital/getting-here-go-well/go-well-travel-plan/

6.3.5 Decarbonise Public Transport

Providing a public transport network is an important function of GDC for the community. As well as increasing access to needed services and employment for individuals with disabilities or those without cars, the bus offers a lower-carbon alternative to solo driving. Increasing bus use can reduce the number of cars on the road, bringing several benefits to the community and environment.

While the bus network contributes to a reduction in community GHG emissions, Gisborne's buses currently run on diesel and emit around 138.5 tonnes of CO_2e per year (counted in GDC's 2018-19 corporate emissions inventory). Switching to decarbonised vehicles would significantly reduce these emissions.

In 2025, GDC renewed its nine-year bus contract with GoBus. Although GoBus offered electric buses, the cost for both the buses and the infrastructure was then unfeasible, and risked NZTA funding.

Despite using diesel, buses remain a more sustainable community service. GDC aims to build an efficient and reliable network with higher patronage. The current contract focuses on optimising routes to reduce both operational costs and fuel consumption. To further increase patronage and lower GHG emissions within the existing contract, the public transport team will explore:

- Potential to use larger buses with increased capacity, reducing fleet size
- Integrating school and city bus routes to minimise vehicles and routes while increasing efficiency
- Route extension possibilities to cover a wider area, thus increasing patronage
- On demand buses, (e.g. MyWay in Hastings)
- Free school buses

For the next contract (due in 2034), GDC plans to include:

- Clear decarbonisation goals for public transport service
- Specific requirements for regular monitoring and reporting of emissions data by the operator
- Business continuity plans for dealing with climate-related disruptions based on known climate risk
- Eco-driving training for bus drivers to cut fuel consumption
- Encouragement for the operator to procure sustainable materials and resources for bus operation and maintenance

Before 2034, TRW and GDC will develop a plan to finance the transition to electric or other low-emission buses.

DECARBONISE PUBLIC TRANSPORT	
PRIORITY	C
COST	Not yet known - $$$
TIMING	2034 (renewal of bus contract)
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	69 CO_2e per year (50% reduction)
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines – Journeys Operations - Public Transport

6.4 Building and Construction

6.4.1 Measure Infrastructure & Capital Projects Emissions

GDC commits a significant budget to capital or infrastructure works every year. The emissions related to these projects are not as easily tracked as operational expenses.

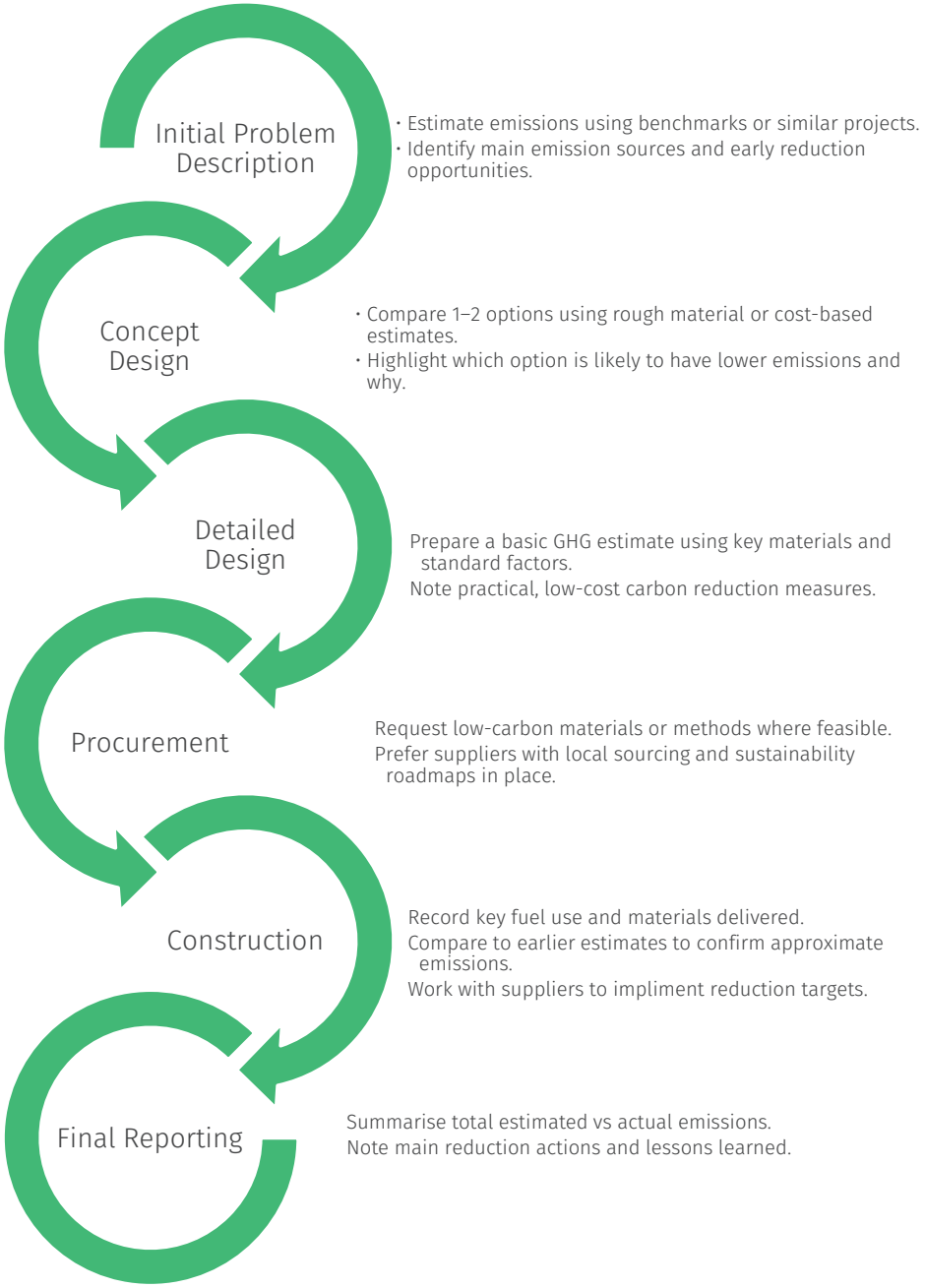
Currently, the carbon emissions related to capital projects like these are measured using the amount of money spent multiplied by an industry-wide emissions factor. This only provides a rough indication of emissions rather than an accurate assessment for specific activities.

To achieve more certainty about the carbon footprint of capital goods and construction services, it is important to obtain more information for each specific product or service, i.e., through designers and contractors completing their own detailed carbon footprints and enabling them to report those emissions. This will result in a more accurate emissions profile and drive significant change through the supply chain. This can be achieved using manual calculators such as **BRANZ LCA Quick** or more involved online LCA calculators.

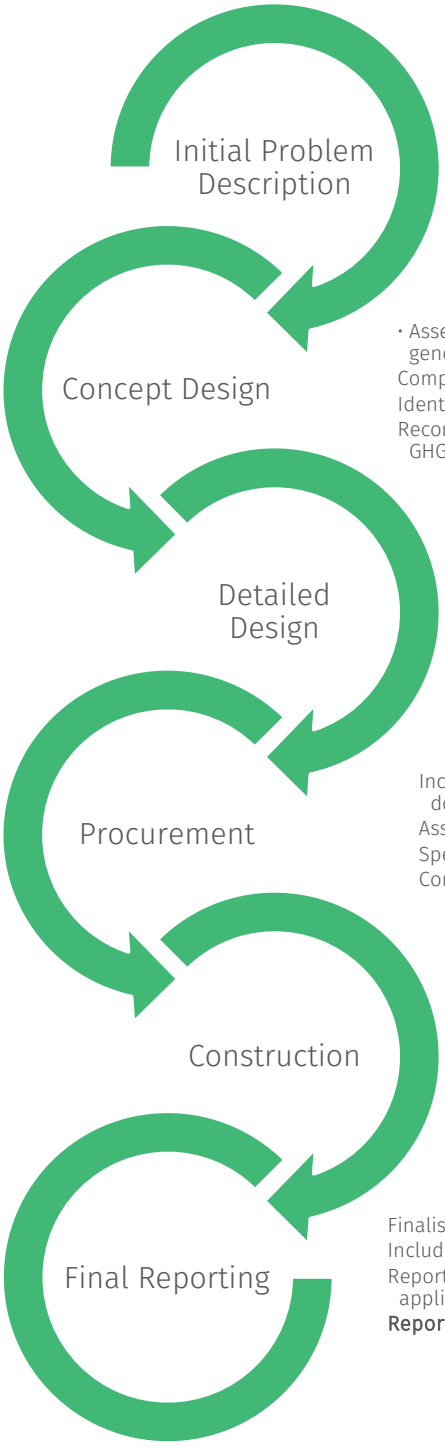
LCA Quick is a free life cycle assessment spreadsheet tool designed to provide rapid estimates of project-related carbon emissions without the time and data demands of a full LCA. The tool is commonly used in construction projects to calculate embodied and operational carbon based on high-level inputs such as material quantities, energy use, and floor area. LCA Quick is best suited for early-stage assessments and decision-making. It is also recognised within the Green Star NZ framework. Refer to the Software section for other options.

When requesting feedback on this plan, GDC staff suggested an emphasis on benchmarking project emissions, early integration (requiring sustainability from concept and design stage), and the importance of considering Gisborne's regional context for materials. They stressed the need to embed a carbon lens across asset management and infrastructure planning through the LTP pipeline, and suggested cost thresholds for GHG assessment requirements. Our recommended approach is to integrate the consideration of GHG emissions throughout the process, from concept through to construction. Note that cost thresholds are set in two brackets ($100k - $1M and $1M +); these thresholds are set starting at a low ($100k) base to enable the possible reduction targets that are being set. The proposed processes for considering GHG in capital projects are laid out in the two diagrams below:

Basic GHG Assessment Process (recommended for projects over $100k - 1M)



Advanced GHG Assessment Process (recommended for projects over $1M)



- Provide an early, **order-of-magnitude** estimate of lifecycle GHG emissions.
- Include a *"Do Nothing"* or *"Do Minimum"* baseline
- Identify key emission sources and drivers.
- Highlight where early choices (location, scale, materials) could significantly influence emissions.

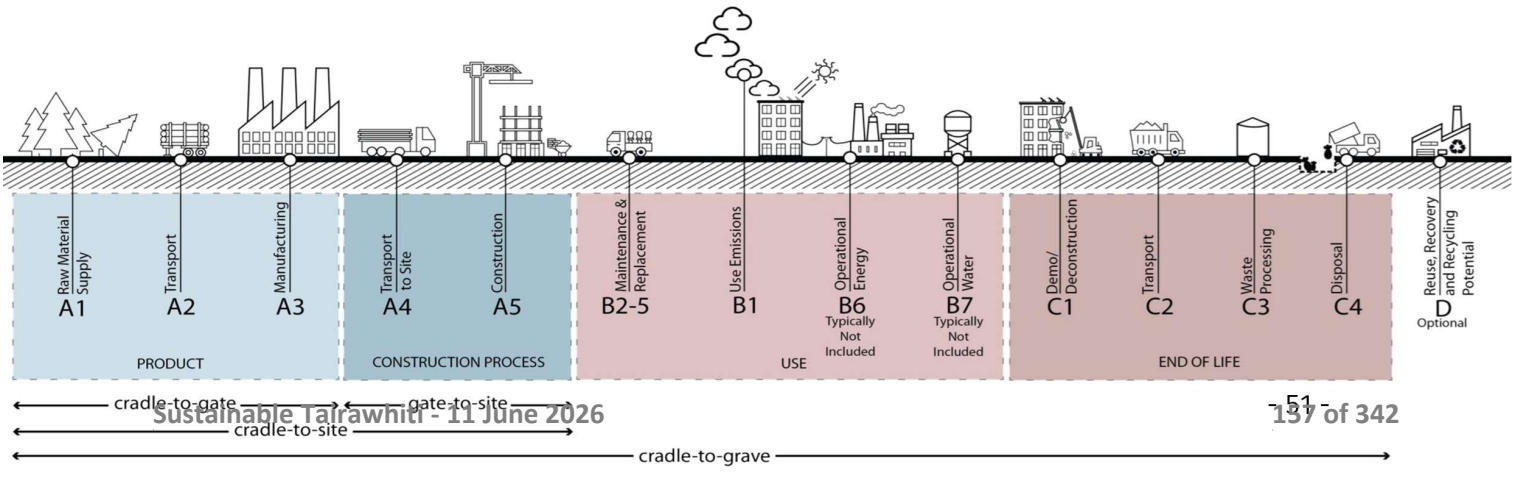
- Assess 2–3 concept options using broad material quantities and generic emission factors.
- Compare options on relative GHG performance and cost implications.
- Identify major emission "hotspots" (e.g., materials, energy use).
- Recommend **preferred options** or **design principles** that minimise GHG impact.

- Develop a quantified, **full lifecycle GHG model** using detailed quantities.
- Incorporate supplier-specific data or EPDs where available.
- Evaluate emissions across construction, operation, maintenance, and end-of-life.
- Prepare a **carbon reduction plan** and confirm measures embedded in the final design.
- Work alongside the designer to impliment potential reductions in the design process.

- Include clear **GHG requirements** and **reduction targets** in tender documents.
- Assess supplier responses and commitments to low-carbon delivery.
- Specify monitoring and reporting expectations for construction.
- Confirm supply-chain data needed to update lifecycle assessments.

- Measure and **record actual emissions** (fuel, materials, transport, waste).
- **Manage opportunites** for both reductions and increases during construction.
- Update lifecycle model with *as-built* data.
- Compare results to design-stage estimates and investigate variances.
- Capture lessons learned and best practices for ongoing improvement.

- Finalise a verified as-built lifecycle GHG assessment.
- Include construction, operational, and end-of-life emissions.
- Report total emissions, reductions achieved, and offset actions (if applicable).
- **Report successes and challenges** to the wider team.



MEASURE INFRASTRUCTURE & CAPITAL PROJECTS EMISSIONS	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$30k per year (software use) Excludes internal or consultant costs for undertaking assessments.
TIMING	Policy in place by 2025/2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	More accuracy in carbon inventories with further reduction strategies Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Community Lifelines – Asset Manager, Liveable Communities – Asset Managers

6.4.2 Certification for Existing Buildings (NABERSNZ) & Future Buildings (GREENSTAR)

New Zealand has two key certification tools for commercial buildings — NABERSNZ for existing buildings and Green Star for new or significantly refurbished buildings.

6.4.2a NABERSNZ

Since January 2021, government property agencies occupying office spaces over 2,000 m² are required to use NABERSNZ, which measures the operational energy performance of a building after at least 12 months of occupancy. New leases must achieve a minimum 4-star rating, and newly constructed buildings must achieve at least 5 stars.

NABERSNZ benefits include:

- Helps to identify inefficiencies.
- Reduce energy use and emissions.
- Benchmark performance over time (which supports ongoing sustainability improvements).

How NABERNZ is different to an Energy Audit (as outlined in Section 6.1.1 above):

Feature	NABERSNZ	Energy Audit
Benchmarking	Yes, nationally standardised	No, site-specific
Recognition	Public and market use	Internal use only
Real-world data	Based on actual usage	Modelled or based on actual usage
Repeatable	Annually	Usually one-off
Actionable rating	Simple star system	Site specific technical recommendations
Costs (estimated)	$3-8K (annually)	$3-50k (one off)

We recommend completing energy audits at each site first, as this will identify opportunities for improvement. GDC may choose to use NABERSNZ certification to measure and validate actual performance, if NABERNZ mandated in the future.

6.4.2b GreenStar

A district council has an important role in influencing the environmental performance of new commercial and mixed-use developments in the CBD. Incentivising the shift to lower-impact developments, such as encouraging the uptake of Green Star/new buildings certification, can help businesses and residents reduce their carbon footprints while supporting long-term economic, social, and environmental resilience.

Green Star is used during design and construction to support early integration of sustainable practices, assessing areas like energy, water, materials, health, and carbon emissions. From 1 April 2022, a 5-star minimum is required for new non-residential government buildings over $9 million, reflecting stronger government commitments to low-

carbon buildings. While the Carbon Neutral Government Programme does not apply to Local Government, adopting the same standards is recommended. These certifications are not limited to Council-owned buildings but are also relevant to third party-owned properties occupied by the Council.

The New Zealand Green Building Council (NZGBC) website provides guidance on these certifications.

To promote the uptake of Green Star and encourage more sustainable development in the CBD, Council could consider the following mechanisms:

- **District Plan Provisions**: Include incentives in the District Plan for developments that achieve minimum Green Star ratings.
- **Design Guidelines**: Update urban design guidelines to encourage high-performing buildings, referencing Green Star criteria such as energy efficiency, material selection, and indoor environment quality.
- **Development Contributions Rebates**: Offer partial rebates on development contributions for Green Star-certified buildings.
- **Rates Discounts**: Consider targeted rates relief for buildings with verified environmental performance.
- **Showcase Projects**: Promote council's own certified projects to demonstrate feasibility and co-benefits (energy savings, comfort, health, resilience).

CERTIFICATION FOR EXISTING AND NEW BUILDINGS	
PRIORITY	C
COST	Unknown
TIMING	Policy in place by 2027
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Aim for 67% reduction. NABERSNZ helps organisations identify inefficiencies, reduce energy use and emissions, and benchmark performance over time, which supports ongoing sustainability improvements.
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities, Community Lifelines, Sustainable Futures – Building services, Finance & Affordability

6.4.3 Sustainable Design and Construction Policy

By implementing a Sustainable Design and Construction Policy, GDC can ensure that it is creating infrastructure and buildings that are built from sustainable materials, have low embodied and operational emissions, and are adapted and resilient to climate change.

The greatest opportunities to reduce whole of life embodied carbon and operational carbon are the planning and design phases of a project. In 2020, the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) established the Climate Change Programme, responsible for leading the building and construction sector's response to the climate crisis. The Whole-of-Life Embodied Carbon Assessment: Technical Methodology contains the proposed methodology for assessing the embodied carbon of new buildings.

Government Procurement Rules have been updated to support the goal of transitioning New Zealand to a zero emissions economy by 2050. The Procurement Guide to Reducing Carbon Emissions in Building and Construction is a useful practical guide published in April 2022 to help people involved in the procurement of building and construction projects understand how they can influence change in reducing carbon emissions.

Additional things to consider in setting this policy:

- Requirement for Green Star / NABERSNZ (see Section 6.4.2 above).
- Targets for percentages of recycled/reclaimed materials in new builds and maintenance.
- Targets for embodied and operational emissions.
- Targets for construction waste and recycling, to minimise waste to landfill from construction and demolition processes.

MINIMISE EMISSIONS IN DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION	
PRIORITY	B
COST	Project-dependent. Included in the above-mentioned cost for infrastructure software
TIMING	Policy in place by 2025/2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Not yet known; aim for 40-67% reduction. Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities, Community Lifelines, Sustainable Futures – Building services, Finance & Affordability

6.5 Leadership

6.5.1 Implement Emissions Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) and Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Frameworks

The implementation of both an Emissions Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and an Emissions Monitoring, Reporting and Verification Framework represents best practice for larger organisations committed to delivering emissions reductions in line with an Emissions Reduction Plan.

Purpose & Scope

To accurately and effectively track emissions reductions and the effectiveness of the Emissions Reduction Plan, we recommend adopting a Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) framework and a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework. These are outlined below:

Framework	Focus	Outputs	Ideal for
Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) Plan	Quantitative tracking, reporting, verification of GHG reductions	Annual GHG inventory, audit reports	Data accuracy, transparency
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Plan	Broader effectiveness of actions, behaviour change, costs/benefits	Progress reports, evaluations, learning	Strategy improvement, accountability

MRV ensures that the quantitative GHG emissions data produced for GDC's annual inventories is accurate, comprehensive and reliable.

M&E uses the GHG emissions data to determine whether the actions and systems in the Emissions Reduction Plan are effectively reducing emissions and identifies opportunities for improvements to the plan as time goes on.

Ongoing evaluation of emissions reduction performance and overall plan effectiveness is critical to maximise the impact of investments and ensure value for money. We suggest implementing an annual cycle like Figure 6 below. This ensures that emissions are measured in line with the MRV framework, emissions reductions are assessed and reported, and the M&E plan is used to evaluate the ERP and adjust actions and budget allocation in a timely manner.

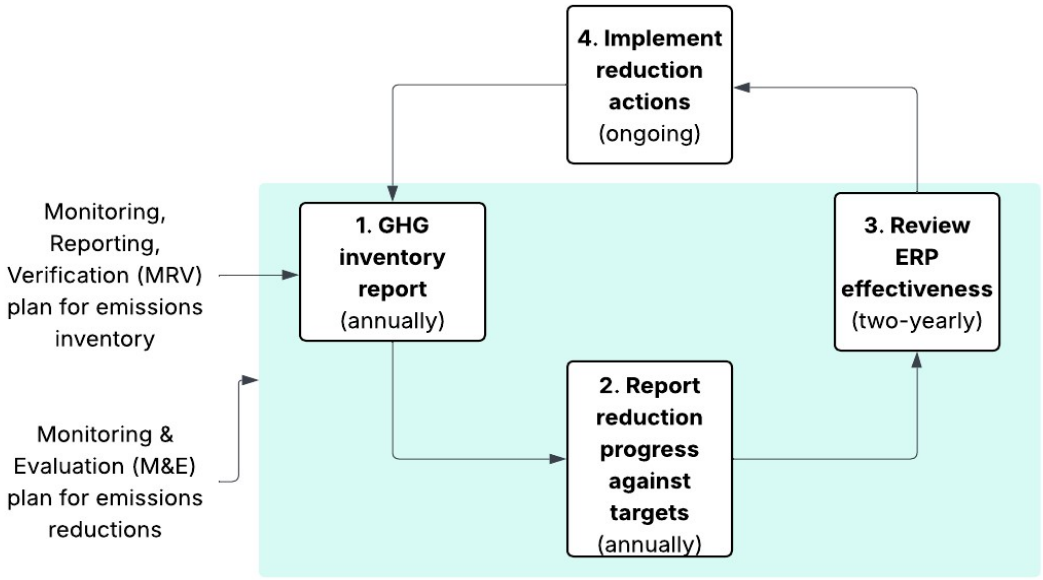


Figure 8 Proposed ERP tracking and review cycle.

See Appendix H for an example MRV framework, and Appendix I for an example M&E framework, and below for an overview of their purpose, scope, and methodology.

6.5.1a Draft Monitoring, Reporting, Verification (MRV) Framework

Section	Description / Example	
Purpose	To ensure accurate, transparent, and consistent tracking of council operational emissions, in line with national reporting standards.	
Scope & Boundaries	Council-controlled operations (Scope 1, 2 and 3).	
Methodology	Latest MfE GHG Emission Factors (or latest year) Consistent with ISO 14064 and GHG Protocol.	
Data Sources	Primarily quantity data from suppliers/providers/contractors, and finance data from accounts.	
Monitoring Frequency	Annual reporting. Implement software to allow data collection throughout year and efficient verification.	
Roles & Responsibilities	**TEAM**	**RESPONSIBILITY**
	Climate Change – Sustainable Futures	Emissions reporting, ERP M&E
	Te Ranga Whakahau, project sponsors	Implementation of projects
	Climate Change Steering Group	Guidance of implementation of ERP
	Department leads	Day-to-day implementation of projects
	GDC staff	Implementation of ERP, ongoing support and culture change
Reporting	• Annual GHG inventory summary • Report: progress vs. baseline year (e.g. FY 2020) • Internal communications plan • Public reporting through Annual Report and external communications plan	

Verification	Internal review by Finance and Climate Change teams annually Third-party verification every 3 years
Continuous Improvement	• Refine data systems and quality • Expand to Scope 3 categories • Integrate with asset management and finance systems

6.5.1b Draft Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Framework

Section	Description / Example
Purpose	To evaluate the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of actions in the Emissions Reduction Plan, and to support adaptive management.
Theory of Change	If the council adopts the actions in the ERP, then operational GHG emissions will decrease, allowing GDC to reach its 2035 and 2050 emissions reduction targets.
Objectives	1. Assess progress against emissions reduction targets. 2. Evaluate cost-effectiveness and co-benefits of key actions. 3. Identify barriers and enablers for implementation. 4. Inform updates to the plan every 2–3 years.
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	**Output indicators:** project-dependent. E.g. for transport: • # EVs purchased • % of staff trained in fuel-efficient driving • $ spent on EV chargers **Outcome indicators:** • % reduction in emissions • $ reduction in operational costs • Emissions per FTE or per service delivered • $ per tCO_2 reduced
Data Collection	• MRV emissions data (see MRV framework) • Procurement and asset records • Staff surveys • Financial tracking • Stakeholder interviews
Monitoring Frequency	Annually, with ERP review every two years
Evaluation Approach	• Internal review led by Climate Change team • External evaluation by a sustainability contractor every 3–4 years • Criteria: relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, sustainability
Reporting & Learning	• Annual progress update to Council, Te Ranga Whakahau and Council staff • Two-yearly evaluation summary with recommendations • Lessons integrated into ERP revision cycle
Responsibilities	• Climate Change Team (coordination) • Programme managers and sponsors (data and commentary) • External evaluator (periodic review)

GDC staff have highlighted some specific areas where data and collection quality should be improved, including:

- Wastewater treatment plant (low quality data, generic emissions factors used; may be differences between Kinesis and AECOM methodology)

- Solid waste disposal
- Landfill gas
- Emissions from leased assets

GDC may consider hiring a suitably qualified carbon accountant to set up an organisation-wide system to collate and calculate emissions data. Software can also assist with this (see Section 6.5.2 below).

REGULARLY MEASURE GDC's ANNUAL ORAGANISATIONAL GHG EMISSIONS	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$20-30k per year (internal or external consultant costs) $10-20K Third Party Verification *not including software
TIMING	2026 for 2024-2025, then annually.
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	*"What gets measured gets managed"*
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Sustainable Futures – Climate Change, Internal Partnerships and Protection – Information Services

6.5.2 Software Requirements

For GDC, it is important to set up a system/process for quantifying and reporting emissions from all activities across the organisation. This differs from the kind of periodic emissions inventory completed for FY 18/19 and FY 23/24 as it involves an ongoing process to measure and report emissions internally. This will help to keep track of the organisational emission sources, monitor trends and track progress towards the net-zero target, making necessary strategic changes along the way. The emissions data and trends can be reported either on a monthly or quarterly basis to inform progress in close to real time. This system should be enabled and supported by the Measuring and Reporting Greenhouse Gas Emissions policy.

To accurately measure, report, and understand its emissions in this way, the council can invest in software designed for tracking carbon and energy use or adapt the existing financial software to accommodate emissions reporting. For new software there are several options available — a summary is provided below, with more detail in Appendix D.

Software relates to managing Gisborne District Council's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through three core activities:

Activity 1. Annual Inventory – Compile emissions data in line with standards.
Activity 2. Monthly/Quarterly Tracking – Monitor progress throughout the year.
Activity 3. Project Analysis – Estimate carbon savings and compare options.

Key Recommendations

A scalable, cost-effective GHG management strategy is achievable by combining:

- myCarbon (by MyImprint), Emanage (by Toitū), or GreenHalo for inventories.
- myCarbon, GreenHalo, or BraveGen for quarterly or monthly tracking.
- ClearPath and/or Excel tools for project evaluation.
- RAMM or other database integration for maintenance tracking.

These tools provide credible outputs aligned with ISO and GHG Protocol standards, with flexibility to grow over time depending on council capacity and priorities.

SOFTWARE TO PURCHASE TO FACILITATE EMISSIONS ASSESSMENTS	
PRIORITY	A
COST – ANNUAL INVENTORY	$2 - 30k per year Note that this is additional to consultant costs which may be required to support the inventory development.
COST – MONTHLY MANAGMENT	$2 - 30k per year Note that this cost range depends on which software type is adopted.
COST – ASSESSMENT FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS	$0 – 20K per year Note that this cost range depends on which software type is adopted, and will likely be tiered with complex projects attracting higher costs.
TIMING	2026, and then yearly subscription fees
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	-
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Sustainable Futures – Climate Change, Internal Partnerships and Protection – Information Services

6.5.3 Sustainable Procurement and Life Cycle Management

The GDC Emissions Inventory FY 18/19 estimated emissions from Purchased Goods & Services and Capital Goods were 19,913 tCO_2e. In FY 23/24 these increased to 36,398 tCO_2e due to improvements in the analysis methodology as well large increase in emissions from cyclone recovery activities.

We recommend a Scope 3 reduction target of 67% by 2035, aligned with the Science-Based Targets Initiative. To reduce these significant emissions by this amount in a decade it will require a **significant and sustained focus** on sustainable procurement, building, construction, and asset management. We recommend the following actions set out in this section.

6.5.3a Update Procurement Plan and Policy

The existing procurement strategy issued in December 2019 was modified in 2021, with the addition of environmental sustainability elements (see Appendix A: Climate Change Procurement). Current Policy, Guidelines and Rules are considered adequate to support the GDC emissions reduction plan however the implementation of this can be improved upon.

This improvement can be achieved by ensuring GDC staff have the structure, delegations, and are empowered to give effect to the strategy. In other words, the focus should be in applying the procurement strategy by educating suppliers to the expectations; by involving staff dedicated to climate change issues, and by providing appropriate resources to assist in every step.

Appendix A contains recommendations for climate-focused procurement. Also ensure tendering rules are consistent with the procurement plan. Key elements include:

- Project Planning, including:
  - For projects over $100k, reviewing benchmarks and similar projects
  - For projects over $1M, assessing 3 options with full Carbon Footprint Product (LCA)
- A phased assessment process for suppliers, encouraging:
  - Creating an Environmental Policy
  - Measuring Emissions
  - Reducing Emissions
  - Reducing and Offsetting Emissions
- Long-term / Maintenance and Emergency Response Supplies Providing On-going Emissions Data, such as:
  - Fuel use
  - Material use
  - Integrate Emissions Factors with RAMM data
- Aggregating Monthly Supplier Emission Data and Reporting against Emission Budgets
- Setting Internal KPI's to monitor progress:
  - Procurement KPI
  - Supplier KPI's
  - Department Emission Reduction

Some specific examples of how emission reductions might be achieved are provided below. Note that these examples would be driven by the procurement framework outlined above, to all GDC procurement, contracts, and tenders.

- **Rubbish trucks**
  The transport emissions generated by rubbish and recycling collection trucks are included in Scope 3 of GDC's inventory, as waste collection is contracted out. Conditions can be added to this contract when it comes up for renewal requiring the contractor to implement efficiencies to reduce these emissions, such as careful planning of routes, more efficient rubbish collection methods, and reduced pick up time. For more detail on reducing waste collection emissions, see Section 6.1.3: Optimisation of waste collection services.
- **Public transport**
  GDC can negotiate with public transport contractors to provide lower-emissions bus options. See Section 6.3.5 for a more detailed explanation of the contract.
- **Basic inorganic chemicals**
  These are used for municipal water treatment. Other NZ councils have made great strides in reducing these emissions by producing chemicals onsite and reducing transport times.
- **Staff travel and accommodation**
  Low-emissions policy for rental vehicles, book flights through a central supplier who can report on GHG emissions, reduce travel through policy changes, road-over-air policy, sustainability requirements for hotels on approved booking list.
- **Building and construction projects**
  Whenever GDC initiates a tender, proposal or quotation process, there is the opportunity to require potential contractors or suppliers to provide emissions estimates and emissions reduction opportunities, which the tenderers would be scored on.
- **Human Resources**
  Employment of additional resources (such as a Sustainable Procurement Officer) to ensure implementation.

Auckland Council and Queenstown Lakes District Council both have good examples of sustainable procurement policies and practices, requiring project emissions assessment and reduction.

Concern was raised by GDC staff about increased costs from suppliers and contractors to achieve these changes. While this will lead to an increase in costs, stricter environmental and climate regulations are being rolled out worldwide (e.g. EU green trading laws). Demand for increased sustainability is also being felt domestically. This will trickle down to New Zealand producers, suppliers and contractors adopting these practices by necessity in the next few decades. By being an early-adopter, GDC can support local contractors and providers with this transition.

Staff also highlighted the importance of policy in allowing them to make sustainable choices. For example, staff would like to switch to waterless systems in remote public toilets, which would reduce water and wastewater volumes and transport emissions from staff. They are receiving pushback against this idea; having sustainability requirements embedded in policy would allow them to push it through.

EMISSIONS REDUCTION IN PROCUREMENT, TENDERS AND ALL SUPPLIER CONTRACTS	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Internal
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Aim for 40-67% reduction in emissions from Purchased Goods & Services and Capital Goods. High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Procurement

6.5.3b Sustainable Design Options and Analysis

Large capital projects produce significant emissions; integration of sustainability from the start and throughout the process is integral to reducing these emissions. GDC can require the following actions to significantly reduce emissions.

Engage Sustainability Consultants

For large projects, bring a sustainability consultant onboard at the concept stage to provide initial guidance, optioneering, and planning. Through this process, the staff will be supported and trained as the project is implemented.

Require GreenStar for New Builds

Require that new builds are built to GreenStar 5 standards. The sustainability consultant can support in this space. Ensure this requirement is understood in early concept and budgeting stages.

Design Options for Medium to Large projects

Ensure the following requirements for larger projects:

- For each project over $250k, ensure three design options are completed, and a “do nothing” option. Investigate ways to reduce emissions and environmental impact and prioritise sustainable design.
- For each project over $1M, ensure three design options are completed, and a “do nothing” option, **and** require a full Carbon Footprint Product/Lifecycle Analyse (LCA).

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Internal, consultancy and GreenStar costs (project-dependent)
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Procurement, Liveable Communities, Community Lifelines

6.5.3c Emissions Reporting for Purchased Goods and Services

GDC can better understand the emissions profiles of its purchased goods and services and capital expenditure by requiring emissions reporting by contractors and project managers, and aggregating results up to department level, to compare against budgets.

1. Require 'as-built' emissions reporting.
2. Implement stricter emissions reporting and reduction requirements for suppliers, contractors, and sub-contractors. Especially important for top spend categories like waste, roading and water.
3. Align with cashflow budgeting, so emissions reporting is required for each budget allocation.
4. Assign a sustainability lead to each project.

EMISSIONS REPORTING	
PRIORITY	A
COST	TBC
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Procurement

6.5.3d Budgeting and finance

By including carbon reduction requirements in budgeting and finance processes, GDC can ensure oversight and commitment to reduction actions. Recommendations:

1. Adjust forward budget spends on reduction performance of prior year.
2. Assign emissions budgets to each cost code which align with the overall reduction targets. Refer to section 6.5.6 for an explanation of the emissions budget.

BUDGETING AND FINANCE	
PRIORITY	A
COST	TBC
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Procurement

6.5.3e Improve Asset Management Programme

Ensure a robust asset management programme to reduce unnecessary expenditure and optimise lifespans of GDC property and infrastructure. Focus on:

1. Asset life-extension
2. Maintenance optimisation programme
3. Ensuring maintenance requirements in RFQs where possible, so the ongoing carbon cost of maintenance is clear from concept/design stage in capital and infrastructure projects

Include specific monitoring and maintenance programme for assets with refrigerant, to minimise accidental refrigerant leaks and associated emissions.

IMPROVE ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME	
PRIORITY	A
COST	TBC
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability

6.5.3f Sustainability Stipulations in Major Leases

Staff have highlighted the possibility of considering GHG reduction requirements in lease renewals, particularly for high-emitting sites. A targeted approach, working with the top five largest emitters to begin with, would limit resource burden on GDC.

An example of where this could be effective is the crematorium.

GDC own one crematorium, operated by Evans Funeral Services. The site has two cremators, the most recent having been installed following a consent variation in 2020; they both run on natural gas. The consent application lists the emissions generated and states that "the discharge of carbon dioxide from this process will be about 125kg/hour."

While GDC does not have direct operational control of the crematorium, it is recommended that Council work with Evans to explore options to reduce cremation emissions through fuel switching and abatement technologies.

Switching to electric cremators and optimisation could reduce CO_2e by 50-80%, with investment in planting at a cemetery or other GDC-owned site to reach carbon neutrality. This is an estimated reduction of 20,000-32,000 kg CO_2e, plus removals.

We recommend identifying the highest-emitting lessees, and working with them on emissions reduction opportunities, with the eventual goal of introducing stipulations into their leases.

Sustainability Stipulations in Leases	
PRIORITY	C
COST	TBC
TIMING	2026, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	High regional potential for reduction Demonstration of Leadership to the Business Community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability

6.5.4 Investing in Emissions Reductions

GDC intends to reduce gross emissions and sequester carbon within the organisation's boundaries to reduce net emissions as much as possible. GDC will write a policy to guide the management of residual emissions closer to 2050.

These gross emissions reduction and sequestration projects will require committed and ongoing funding to 2050 and beyond. Several actions proposed in this ERP are covered in the LTP and already have a budget allocated. Others are not included and will require further investigation before they can be implemented.

We recommend implementing a yearly budget for GHG emissions reduction projects, based on the emissions inventory of the previous year. The size of this fund could be calculated by multiplying GDC's emissions reduction targets for each year by the current or estimated future cost of carbon credits. This methodology would allow GDC to invest in emissions reduction at a competitive rate and minimise the need to invest in offsetting to deal with residual emissions. This process is sometimes known as insetting.

Creating a budget, policy and management plan around emissions reduction projects will ensure that the ERP gets funded and completed.

Most actions in this ERP with direct emissions reductions would qualify as emissions reduction projects, including:

1. Paokahu closed landfill
2. Waiapu landfill
6. Energy efficiency
7. Renewable energy
8. Conversion to electric and active transport
12. Decarbonise public transport
16. Waingake Restoration Project
17. Increase carbon sequestration on GDC land
18. Cremation and burial

SET UP INTERNAL FUNDING SYSTEM FOR EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS	
PRIORITY	B
COST	Depending on the emissions to inset
TIMING	2026, then yearly
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Depending on the projects
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Finance and Affordability – Financial Services

6.5.5 Communication and Engagement Plans

To support the successful implementation of the ERP, GDC will develop and deliver both internal and external communications plans. These plans will ensure alignment, engagement, and momentum throughout all phases of the ERP, from early co-development and drafting to implementation and ongoing progress reporting.

6.5.5a Internal Communications Plan

Purpose: To engage GDC councillors, executive leadership team, staff, and internal stakeholders across departments, building a shared sense of responsibility, ownership, and commitment to the ERP.

Objectives:

- Raise awareness of the ERP across all levels of council.
- Build staff understanding of how their work contributes to emissions reduction.
- Encourage staff engagement and participation in ERP-related actions and greenhouse gas emissions data collection.
- Create a culture of sustainability, where continuous improvement and collaboration are supported.
- Demonstrate support and commitment to ERP objectives by TRW and Council to staff.

Key Messages:

- "We all have a role to play in reducing emissions — every sustainable action matters."
- "This is not a ‘nice-to-have’ — it’s essential for the future of our community."
- "Change will be gradual, but coordinated efforts will deliver real impact."
- "By working together, we can lead the region in climate action."
- “We can encourage our upstream suppliers and downstream contractors to choose lower-carbon, more sustainable materials and processes.”

Methods:

- Gamification, competitions between departments
- Good news stories, celebrating wins
- Environment Centre visits, other activities and events

6.5.5b External Communications Plan

Purpose: To build public awareness and community support for the ERP and to demonstrate GDC’s leadership on climate action.

Objectives:

- Inform the public, stakeholders, and partners about the ERP and its purpose.
- Encourage local suppliers, contractors and other businesses to support and implement their own emissions reduction initiatives.
- Communicate transparently about the council's progress, successes, and challenges.
- Position GDC as a climate leader in the region.

Key Messages:

- "GDC is taking action on climate change — and we're inviting our whole community to join us."
- "Our contractors and suppliers are key partners in reducing emissions — sustainable practices make a difference."
- "When many people take small steps, the collective impact is powerful."
- "We're committed to doing this together, and we'll keep you updated on our progress."

6.5.5c Other Climate-Related Communications Planned for 25/26

GDC has a heavy public engagement schedule, and will ensure that the ERP communications plans align with the following climate-related communication activities:

Communication / consultation	Campaign type	Timing
Tairawhiti climate change risk assessment (including RPS hazard data)	Light consultation with community, tangata whenua engagement.	2025
Regional climate plan – adaptation and mitigation	Communication	TBC
Wainui Coastal Adaptation Plan	Consultation	TBC

DEVELOP COMMUNICATION PLANS	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Internal time
TIMING	2025, then ongoing
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Success of ERP relies on staff engagement and buy-in Leadership in emissions reduction, demonstration to community
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Internal Partnerships and Protection, Engagement & Māori Partnerships

6.5.6 Emissions Reduction Steering Group

Establish a dedicated Emissions Reduction Steering Group to drive GDC's emission reduction and ensure clear accountability. This group should have defined responsibilities, reporting lines, and cross-departmental representation. **This is an example of a possible Steering Group. GDC input required.**

Responsibilities:

- To provide strategic oversight of GDC's emissions reduction efforts.
- Coordinate initiatives across departments, avoid duplication and ensure progress.
- Monitor KPIs and report progress to Senior Leadership and Council.
- Recommend policies, procedures, and projects to meet emissions targets during Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) process.
- Engage relevant stakeholders internally and externally.

Suggested Membership:

- Chair / **Sponsor:** Chief Executive Officer

- **Steering Members:**
  - Sustainable Futures - Climate Change Response Manager
  - Internal Partnerships and Protection - Information Services Manager
  - Sustainable Futures – Building Services Manager
  - Finance and Affordability – Finance & Performance Manager
  - Engagement and Māori Partnerships - Tuia Tangata / Engagement Manager
  - Engagement and Māori Partnerships - Māori Partnerships Manager
  - Finance and Affordability – Commercial & Business Development Manager
- **Working-Level Participants:** Project managers or technical specialists as required
  - Liveable Communities - Solid Waste Manager
  - Liveable Communities - Liveable Spaces Manager
  - Liveable Communities - Regional Biodiversity Transformation Manager
  - Community Lifelines - Water Manager
  - Community Lifelines - Journeys Operations Manager
  - Community Lifelines – Journeys Infrastructure Manager
  - Community Lifelines – Major Projects Manager

Reporting Lines:

- Steering Group to Senior Leadership Team to Council
- Project teams report progress to the Steering Group

Meetings:

- Steering Group: bi-monthly
- Working-level teams: As required

Success Factors:

- Clear accountability and regular progress reviews against emissions reduction targets
- Transparent reporting to leadership and Council
- Commitment of resources and support from senior leadership

Next Steps:

1. Appoint Chair and Steering Group members.
2. Define charter, objectives, and terms of reference.

3. Set initial meeting schedule and reporting framework.

6.5.7 Integrate Into GDC Planning Processes

6.5.7a Long Term Plan (LTP), Three Year Plan, and Annual Plan

The LTP sets out GDC's vision, priorities, major projects, and financial budgets and forecasts for the next 10 years. The LTP is reviewed and updated every three years, and the Annual Plans outline GDC's activities, projects and budget for the upcoming year.

These planning processes currently include robust financial budgeting and forecasting; the same could be done for GHG emissions. By including emissions reduction targets or emissions budgets into existing planning processes, GDC can ensure regular progress updates and confidently commit to and actively reduce their emissions with support from TRW and Council.

Note that if emissions reduction targets or budgets are included in the LTP as performance measures, GDC require the annual inventory to be audited as part of the Annual Report process. 3-yearly verification of the inventory is recommended as per the Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) framework proposed in Section 6.5.1, but thought should be given as to whether this is frequent enough to fulfil LTP requirements.

Option 1: Emissions Reduction Targets and Roadmap

GDC can include the emissions reduction targets and roadmap included in this plan in LTP and Annual Plan documents. As each document is reviewed, consulted on, and committed to, GDC will commit to continuing to meet emissions reduction targets. Including emissions reduction projects in high level planning documents will require GDC to allocate budget accordingly.

See Section 8 for the emissions reduction roadmap.

Option 2: Emissions Budgets

The emissions reduction targets and a roadmap may be used to create emissions budgets. These can be included in LTPs and Annual Plans alongside financial budgets. Departments can be given their own emission budgets, and in the same way as financial budgets they would need approval to exceed them. This would both enable carbon measurements for departments and encourage carbon reduction to stay under budget.

An indicative budget has been worked up below to demonstrate this. A total emissions budget that aligns with the agreed reduction pathway would be proposed for each year. Then that total emissions budget would be divided between the cost codes, according to the assigned project profiles for each cost centre which would also reduce year on year towards the 2035 and 2050 targets.

Indicative Prospective Summary Cost ($ and CO2-e) by Activity			
Activity	2025	2026	2027
Expenses			
Commercial Operations ($ 000's)	$ 2,153	$ 2,264	$ 2,301
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Commercial Operations	CO2-e 307	CO2-e 329	CO2-e 300
Environmental Services & Protection ($ 000's)	$ 14,889	$ 15,271	$ 15,722
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Environmental Services & Protection	CO2-e 2122	CO2-e 2217	CO2-e 2052
Land, Rivers & Coastal ($ 000's)	$ 5,149	$ 5,097	$ 4,605
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Land, Rivers & Coastal	CO2-e 734	CO2-e 740	CO2-e 601
Liveable Communities ($ 000's)	$ 24,856	$ 25,417	$ 25,460
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Liveable Communities	CO2-e 3542	CO2-e 3690	CO2-e 3323
Regional Leadership & Support Services ($ 000's)	$ 30,610	$ 29,697	$ 26,831
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Regional Leadership & Support Services	CO2-e 4362	CO2-e 4311	CO2-e 3502
Roading ($ 000's)	$ 49,646	$ 49,352	$ 51,639
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Roading	CO2-e 7075	CO2-e 7165	CO2-e 6739
Solid Waste ($ 000's)	$ 24,588	$ 6,024	$ 6,509
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Solid Waste	CO2-e 3504	CO2-e 875	CO2-e 849
Urban Stormwater ($ 000's)	$ 4,588	$ 4,028	$ 4,200
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Urban Stormwater	CO2-e 654	CO2-e 585	CO2-e 548
Wastewater ($ 000's)	$ 12,967	$ 13,566	$ 14,192
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Wastewater	CO2-e 1848	CO2-e 1969	CO2-e 1852
Water Supply ($ 000's)	$ 9,473	$ 9,865	$ 10,419
GHG Budget (tCO2e) - Water Supply	CO2-e 1350	CO2-e 1432	CO2-e 1360
Total Expenses ($ 000's)	$ 178,919	$ 160,581	$ 161,877
Total Expenses (tCO2-e)	CO2-e 25498	CO2-e 23313	CO2-e 21126

Option 3: Both Reduction Targets and Budgets

Including both will show progress intended to be made in the coming year, show progress compared to commitment over past years, and clearly show the remaining emissions available to be used within a time period for GDC to meet its emissions targets.

We recommend that GDC include emissions reduction targets broken down into a granular format (aligned with the carbon reduction recommendations in this report) both for corporate and community emissions in regular planning processes.

Regular measuring and reporting of emissions will ensure seamless reporting against targets in planning documentation.

6.5.7b Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan (TRMP)

Review of the TRMP is currently underway (Gisborne District Council, n.d.). Including regional emissions reduction targets and budgets and ensuring strong emissions reduction requirements in the TRMP will both support and encourage the community to reduce emissions and enable GDC to do the same with its corporate emissions.

INTEGRATE REDUCTION TARGES INTO GDC PLANNING PROCESSES	
PRIORITY	A
COST	Internal
TIMING	2025 onwards
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	Demonstration of leadership to community and government Accountability for meeting emissions reduction targets Improved climate planning processes
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Democracy and Support

6.6 Land

6.6.1 Reforestation: Waingake Restoration Project

In 2018 it was decided to transition about 70% of the pine forest at Waingake (1,100 ha) into native vegetation through planting and natural reversion. This will further safeguard the water supply pipeline and water supply catchment whilst also providing cultural, biodiversity and amenity benefits. In addition to restoring these ecological values, the conversion to native vegetation will sequester carbon that is otherwise released with the harvest of commercial pine forest.

Planting began in Waingake in 2020. As of 2025, 450 hectares have been planted, in addition to areas that are naturally regenerating to native. Around 300 hectares remain untreated, with plans to plant or encourage native regeneration over the coming years. The project is funded until 2031, when planting will be complete. The area will require ongoing maintenance, including animal and plant pest control.

WAINGAKE RESTORATION	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$18M (in LTP)
TIMING	Ongoing
EMISSIONS CAPTURE	500-7,500 t CO_2e per year (increases as forest grows), estimated as per ETS carbon lookup tables. Ecological Improvements
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities – Regional Biodiversity Transformation

6.6.2 Increase Carbon Sequestration and Biodiversity Value on Other Council Land

There is potential to increase the amount of GDC land planted in native vegetation. Planting more native vegetation on Council land would stimulate biodiversity and provide more opportunity to work with community groups to support their efforts in improving natural areas. The following subsections outline opportunities to either directly improve the sequestration value of Council-owned land, or plan and advocate for policy shifts that would enable greater incentives to do so.

6.6.2a Urban Biodiversity Targets

The National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPSIB) requires 10% of urban areas to be indigenous vegetation (Ministry for the Environment, 2023). As of 2025, GDC is around 230 hectares short of the target. A report including desktop mapping and ground-truthing of existing urban indigenous vegetation is due in June 2025 and will be used to create a fifty-year plan to reach the target, in line with GDC's Urban Biodiversity Strategy (GDC, 2023). Consideration should be made in this plan to maximise the carbon sequestration potential of sites converted to natives. Sites that may be transitioned include Whataupoko (Fox Street) and Titirangi (Kaiti Hill). Sites larger than one hectare may qualify for the ETS.

6.6.2b Woodlots

GDC's woodlots are managed by PF Olsen, who provide reports and evaluations of the sites annually. The exception is Gentle Annie, which is managed by the Land Management Team, who are planting on soil conservation areas. The current sequestration value of the woodlots is unknown, but many are larger than one hectare and already included in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). Council-owned woodlots larger than 1ha and planted post 1989 can qualify for ETS and be eligible for carbon sequestration under current rules. Tree species are predominantly radiata pine and cypress, but other minor species include firs, gums, and other mostly exotic species. The woodlots are all nearing harvest age and require management plans. GHL-owned woodlots are not included in the scope of this ERP.

As per PF Olsen's 2024 Tree Crop Valuation reports, management plans could be applied to the following areas:

- Averjil JV
- Kanakanaia
- Matawai
- Parikanapa
- Ruakaka
- Waterfall Hill
- Waerenga O Kuri Reserve

Please see PF Olsen reports for more details on these forests.

Management options for the GDC woodlots are outlined in Table 6. We recommend option 2 or 3. Further analysis of costs and benefits of these options are required to inform a balanced and informed approach. Financial returns from harvest and ongoing exotic

forestry should be considered alongside environmental, ecological and social benefits and ongoing planting and maintenance costs.

Table 6: Options for Managing Woodlots

Option	Detail	Carbon sequestration	Biodiversity value	Economic return	Intervention level
1. Retain and manage as permanent forest	Allow woodlot to naturally transition to permanent forest (exotic or native) with minimal intervention (except fencing and pest control)	Medium – high	Medium	Low	Low - moderate
2. Harvest and transition to native forest	Total harvesting of exotics to allow for natural regeneration or active planting of native species. Faster than Option 3.	High	Medium – high	Low – medium	Moderate - high
3. Continuous Cover Forestry (CCF) or transitional forestry	Incremental harvest of woodlot, maintaining forest cover and encouraging natural regeneration or replanting with natives in harvested areas. Slower than Option 2, but greater ecological benefits.	Medium - high	Medium – high	Medium	Moderate – high
4. Replant exotics and continue production forestry	Harvest and replant for exotic forestry	Medium	Low	High	Moderate

6.6.2c FOSAL Properties

Following Cyclone Gabrielle, the Government announced a system of land categorisations to deal with the risks from future severe weather events on affected properties. Under this Future of Severely Affected Land (FOSAL) programme, maps were developed showing which category affected properties in our region fall under. GDC then purchased properties in Category 3, with plans to remove and demolish buildings on these properties. Council is now responsible for the safe and responsible use of these properties, which are at highest risk of future impact from extreme weather events.

Some Category 3 properties are adjacent to each other, creating an area greater than one hectare (e.g. Vogel Street and Russell Street). These properties may be converted to native vegetation, simultaneously sequestering carbon, boosting urban biodiversity values, and progressing towards meeting NPSIB targets.

6.6.2d Create a Policy to Manage Sequestered Carbon

GDC does not currently have a policy, strategy, or plan to guide how Council manages its sequestered carbon. By creating a document to guide the purchase and use of offsets, carbon credits, and investment in organisational emissions abatement, GDC can be strategic in its management of its owned and leased land.

The details of this strategy or plan should be decided in collaboration with councillors and Te Ranga Whakahau (TRW) to align with GDC's strategic goals. It should:

- **Set clear principles and priorities** for how GDC will approach sequestered carbon, such as:
    - Prioritising gross emissions reduction before offsetting.
    - Only purchasing offsets to address residual or unavoidable emissions.
    - Ensuring that any offsets used are verified, high-quality, and meet recognised standards.
- **Determine Council's approach to carbon sequestration and credits.** Identify whether GDC will:
    - Claim and report carbon sequestration from its land.
    - Generate and sell carbon credits from its land.
    - Purchase carbon credits from external providers.
    - Use carbon credits to meet internal or public emissions targets.
- **Establish governance and decision-making processes**
    - Delegation of sequestration-related decisions.
    - Processes for monitoring, reporting, and verifying carbon sequestration.
    - Integration into GDC's other carbon accounting and reporting systems (see Sections 6.5.1 and 6.5.2).
- **Consider financial mechanisms to support sequestration and abatement**
    - Investigate setting up an internal emissions abatement fund.
    - Explore the role of the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) for eligible land.
    - Assess costs, risks and co-benefits (e.g. biodiversity, resilience, cultural values).
    - Ensure ring-fencing of funding for biodiversity and sequestration projects.

Next steps

- Investigate policies, strategies, and frameworks adopted by other councils (in NZ and internationally) to inform GDC's approach.
- Draft the policy in consultation with councillors, TRW, and relevant teams (e.g. climate change, finance, legal, planning, parks, and reserves).
- Ensure the final policy is endorsed by Council and embedded in GDC's emissions management framework.

6.6.2e Advocate for Inclusion of Other Vegetation Types in ETS

New Zealand's Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) currently only counts a limited number of ecosystems, primarily exotic and native forests. Other types of ecosystems, like planted riparian zones, wetlands, estuaries, and kelp forests are excluded. This is usually due to planting space requirements or species height restrictions. Emerging research is demonstrating that these other ecosystem types do indeed store carbon, as well as providing benefits to biodiversity, local communities, water security, and water quality.

GDC could advocate to the NZ government for changes to the ETS rules, so these other valuable ecosystems can also count towards carbon storage. We recommend forming partnerships with universities and research organisations to gather more evidence showing how much carbon these areas store, and the co-benefits. If the ETS settings change, some of GDC's other projects could get recognition in government policy, potentially boosting funding opportunities to extend this work (e.g. wetland or seagrass restoration, large-scale riparian planting).

OTHER REVEGETATION (assumed 4ha per year)	
PRIORITY	A
COST	$100k per year, at $25k/ha
TIMING	2027 onwards
EMISSIONS CAPTURE	If planting 4ha/year (tCO_2/year) (note that other GDC internal targets are higher): 2027-2032: 11.13 2033-2038: 116.80 2039-2050: 444.53 (used 2027-2050 yearly average of 265,304 kg CO_2e in MACC) Ecological and biodiversity co-benefits
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities – Regional Biodiversity Transformation and Liveable Spaces

6.6.3 Burial and the Cemetery

How we choose to lay loved ones to rest has measurable consequences for the environment. In addition to water and soil contamination from toxic embalming chemicals and the land use required for burial, both methods of end-of-life body disposition result in direct greenhouse gas emissions. Table 7 outlines the estimated emissions from cremation and burial in Tairawhiti.

Estimated using publicly available data, and limited emissions information for both cremations and burials.

Table 7: Estimated deaths, cremations and burials for Gisborne.

Options	Number per year	Percentage per year	Kg CO_2e per body	Yearly kg CO_2e for Gisborne
Deaths	390 – 450			
Cremation	176 - 225	45-50%	180	35,100 – 44,640
Traditional burial	195 - 248	50-55%	39	7,605 – 9,672, plus cemetery maintenance emissions
Natural burial	0	0%	Negligible, offset by planted trees	0

(GDC, 2012; Figure.NZ, n.d.; Cave, 2023; Morby, 2023)

This section outlines a plan for reducing the greenhouse gas emissions associated with burial and cemetery maintenance in Gisborne. See Section 6.5.3f for more on the crematorium.

Gisborne District Council owns and maintains 11 public cemeteries in the Gisborne Tairāwhiti district. Traditional cemeteries require ongoing maintenance and lawn management, and result in large areas of grassed but otherwise unvegetated land, often in prime locations.

Natural burial offers an alternative, more sustainable option to the community. Natural burial sites reduce the need for mowing and other maintenance, and land used for internment. A natural burial site could be entered into the Emissions Trading Scheme, if larger than one hectare, and could be used to meet other targets, including national urban biodiversity requirements.

GDC is aware of growing public interest in natural and eco-friendly burial options, and included the following action in the 2018 Cemeteries Plan:

"4. Assess opportunities for eco-burials, natural burials and kahu whakatere."

This was due to be addressed in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan. As of 2025, GDC has not yet designated a natural burial site, but staff have indicated that work is underway.

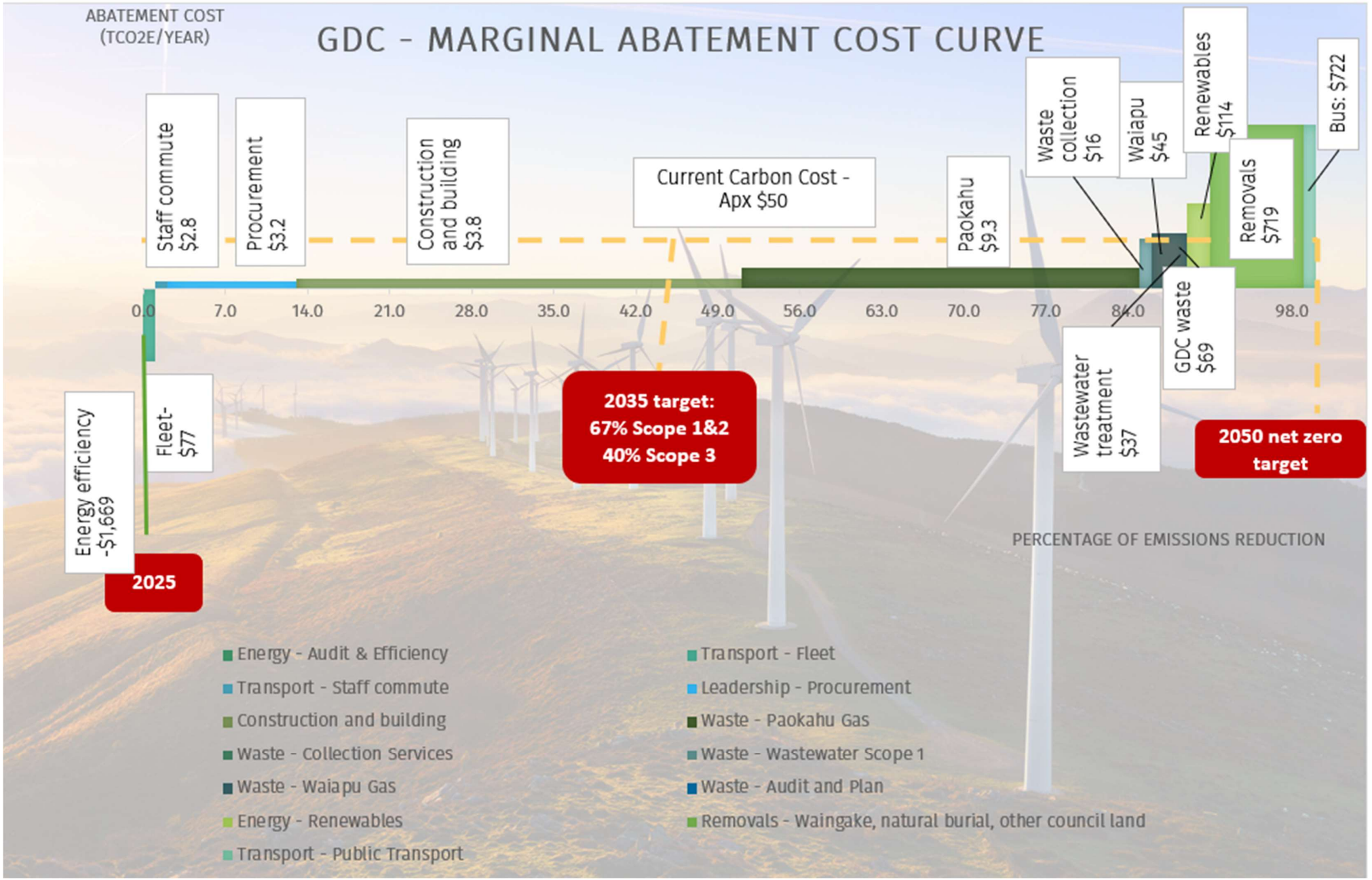
DESIGNATE A NATURAL BURIAL SITE	
PRIORITY	D
COST	$0 - internal staff time only (if can use existing GDC-owned land. If land purchase is required, will cost the land, but price can be partially offset with burial fees)
TIMING	2026
EMISSIONS REDUCTON	1,115 kgCO_2e per year + sequestration from native trees planted onsite (roughly 2,100 tCO_2e by 2050, if 30% of burials in 2026 are natural, increasing by 5% every 5 yrs).
LEAD DEPARTMENT	Liveable Communities – Liveable Spaces

7. Marginal Abatement Cost Curve

This Marginal Abatement Cost Curve (MACC) analysis is a tool to compare the costs and benefits of the emissions reduction actions proposed in this plan. It shows the expected emissions savings of each action (the width of each coloured box) alongside the estimated cost per tonne of carbon reduced (the height of each box). This allows options to be ranked by reduction and cost-effectiveness. Actions that sit below the baseline ($0) typically save money while reducing emissions, while those above the line involve a net cost. Actions to the left of the 2035 target are important for achieving near-term emissions reduction goals.

Recommendations based on this analysis:

- Paokahu and Waiapu landfills are prioritised, with feasibility studies completed in 2026 and flaring/gas capture starting from 2027. This will see the most cost-effective Scope 1 emissions reductions. Delaying this action will increase its future cost. Note that Scope 1 targets will not be achievable without action on the landfills.
- The $/$tCO_2e$ for Capital Goods is $3.80, and $3.20 for Purchased Goods and Services. This makes these projects both some of the most abatement- and cost-effective projects in this plan. While there will be an ongoing cost associated with them, it is significantly cheaper than the cost of offsetting or delaying action.
- Fleet conversion and energy efficiency actions will save money and are worth investing in as soon as possible to begin seeing returns before 2035.
- If GDC chooses to purchase energy certificates, delay this until after 2035. Before 2035, focus on energy efficiency and on-site renewables.
- Staff have indicated that reducing Scope 1 emissions from the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be difficult. We recommend a feasibility study to assess options in 2026 as well as consulting with other Councils to understand their processes. Should cost-effective options be identified, these should be implemented before 2035, and further mitigation options should be implemented as new technology becomes available, closer to 2050. If Scope 1 reductions from the landfill mitigations are successful at reaching the 67% Scope 1&2 target by 2035, investment in the WWTP can wait until after 2035.
- Waste Collection Services made up a small proportion of the FY 18/19 inventory, but a large part of the FY 2023/24 inventory. As the $/$tCO_2e$ is relatively low ($16.42), consider investing in this early.
- Improved data collection processes and ongoing monitoring, reporting and verification of emissions will be integral to achieving emissions reduction targets and analysing progress.


ABATEMENT COST
(TCO2E/YEAR)
GDC - MARGINAL ABATEMENT COST CURVE
Staff commute $2.8
Procurement $3.2
Construction and building $3.8
Current Carbon Cost - Apx $50
Paokahu $9.3
Waste collection $16
Waiapu $45
Renewables $114
Bus: $722
Removals $719
GDC waste $69
Wastewater treatment $37
Energy efficiency -$1,669
Fleet- $77
2025
2035 target: 67% Scope 1&2 40% Scope 3
2050 net zero target
0.0
7.0
14.0
21.0
28.0
35.0
42.0
49.0
56.0
63.0
70.0
77.0
84.0
98.0
PERCENTAGE OF EMISSIONS REDUCTION
Energy - Audit & Efficiency
Transport - Staff commute
Construction and building
Waste - Collection Services
Waste - Waiapu Gas
Energy - Renewables
Transport - Public Transport
Transport - Fleet
Leadership - Procurement
Waste - Paokahu Gas
Waste - Wastewater Scope 1
Waste - Audit and Plan
Removals - Waingake, natural burial, other council land

8. Next Steps

This ERP will put Council in the good position to be a regional climate change leader, supporting strategic thinking on critical issues and opportunities for the region. Alongside the corporate emissions reduction journey, the next step is to work with all regional leaders and stakeholders to co-design and implement a regional emissions reduction plan. Businesses and communities have expressed on several occasions their concerns on climate change and the desire to see some actions in place. Alongside other regional partners, GDC will use evidence- and risk-based approaches for the benefit of present and future generations.

9. Implementation Risks

This section identifies and assesses the key risks to successful implementation of the Emissions Reduction Plan. Risks are assessed using a framework consistent with ISO 31000:2018.
Each risk is rated by Likelihood (Rare to Almost Certain) and Consequence (Insignificant to Severe), producing an overall Risk Rating (Low / Moderate / High / Extreme).
Mitigations aim to reduce either the likelihood or consequence of the identified risk.

Financial and Economic Risk

Implementing the ERP requires sustained capital and operational investment in renewable energy, waste infrastructure, and fleet transition. Tairawhiti's low-decile socio-economic profile and already high rates burden create affordability constraints and the potential for community pushback or under-investment.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Likely	Major	High

Mitigations:

- Phase projects to align with Long-Term Plan cycles and affordability testing.
- Seek co-funding via central-government climate and infrastructure programmes.
- Complete affordability assessments and optioneering for major investments.

Infrastructure and Technological Risk

Dependence on emerging technologies (e.g. EV fleet, wastewater processing, heavy transport EV, heavy machinery EV) and limited regional supply chains may lead to cost escalation, delays, or performance issues.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Possible	Major	Moderate to High

Mitigations:

- Partner with other councils and Crown entities to share procurement and expertise.

Include financial and schedule contingencies in project planning.
Support regional workforce training in renewable-energy and waste-sector skills.
Prioritise transition that is not reliant on new technology.

Leadership and Departmental Accountability Risk

Successful ERP delivery depends on strong leadership, cross-departmental ownership, and consistent executive commitment. If senior leadership or departmental managers do not prioritise emissions reduction, or if responsibilities are unclear, there is a risk of fragmented delivery, under-reporting, or general resistance within GDC.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Possible	Major	High

Mitigations:

Establish an Executive Climate Steering Group, chaired by the Chief Executive or a delegated Group Manager, to provide clear governance and decision-making authority.
Embed ERP targets and KPIs into departmental business plans and performance reviews.
Maintain visible, consistent leadership messaging emphasising climate action as a core organisational value.
Provide ongoing governance training and leadership forums to reinforce accountability and culture change.
Recognise that strong leadership is critical—executive sponsorship must remain active throughout the ERP lifecycle to maintain staff engagement, prioritisation, and continuity.

Organisational Capacity and Governance Risk

Limited staffing resource, competing operational priorities, and turnover can slow ERP progress or reduce institutional knowledge.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Possible	Moderate	Moderate

Mitigations:

Continue to resource a permanent Climate Implementation Team with cross-departmental representation.
Integrate ERP milestones into annual business planning and budgets.
Maintain professional development and succession planning for technical roles.

Social Equity and Community Acceptance Risk

Without equitable design, ERP actions (e.g. waste-fee increases, transport changes) could unintentionally disadvantage lower-income or specific sectors of the community, eroding public trust and participation.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Likely	Major	High

Mitigations:

Apply equity and distributional-impact assessments to all ERP projects.

Introduce targeted subsidies or rebates for low-income households adopting low-emission options.

Partner with iwi, hapū, and community organisations in co-designing initiatives.

Prioritise measures that deliver co-benefits (e.g. energy efficiency, health, and mobility) alongside emissions reduction.

Climate and Environmental Risk

Extreme weather and natural disasters could damage infrastructure and divert resources from emissions reduction to recovery.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Almost Certain	Severe	Extreme

Mitigations:

Integrate resilience and adaptation design standards into all capital works, including recovery.

Coordinate with Civil Defence Emergency Management to align resilience and emissions-reduction priorities.

Review redundancy and rapid-recovery protocols for critical assets.

Data and Performance Monitoring Risk

Inaccurate or inconsistent emissions data could undermine decision-making and external reporting credibility.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Possible	Moderate	Moderate

Mitigations:

Adopt emissions-management software (as outlined in Appendix D).

Conduct annual third-party audits of GHG inventories.

Provide training to staff responsible for data capture and reporting.

Reputational and Compliance Risk

Failure to deliver ERP commitments or comply with national climate obligations could damage GDC's public reputation and funding credibility and undermine wider regional emissions goals.

Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Rating
Likely	Major	High

Mitigations:

Report progress transparently in Annual Reports and online dashboards.

Ensure procurement and reporting standards are in line with central-government reporting.

Maintain proactive communications with stakeholders and the community.

Summary and Ongoing Management

GDC can maintain an ERP Risk Register reviewed annually by the Climate Steering Group. Each risk will have a designated owner, residual-risk rating, and mitigation status to ensure adaptive management, transparency, and leadership accountability.

9.2 Strategic Investment

We recommend that GDC immediately implement the internal, low cost, changes that drive internal change, including communication, and put systems in place to enable future reductions. As soon as possible after systems are in place, reductions should start in line with the short-term (year 1-3) recommendations outlined below. This will ensure the most cost-effective allocation of capital in reducing emissions, supported by system change and buy-in within GDC. We see the following as the priority investment initiatives:

The first 3 years include investigatory costs to help firm up capital for medium term (year 4-10) urban design for change, infrastructure plans and design changes.

Short-Term (Year 1-3) 2025-2028: Policy, Research and Assessment

- Continue and stay on track with activities in the LTP, i.e., Electric Fleet and LED light conversion, Waingake Planting
- Investigation on landfill gas capture
- Update policies:
  - Procurement policy
  - Green building certification requirements
  - Sustainable design and construction requirements
  - Carbon sequestration and credits policy
- Energy and waste audits
- Investigation on wastewater treatment plant upgrade and optimisation of waste collection services
- Improve emissions inventory data collection system; implement software
- Require measurement of infrastructure and capital projects emissions
- Communication and engagement plans
- Imbed carbon planning, budgeting and accounting into all formal GDC planning processes
- Increase flexible and active working options and incentives for staff

Medium Term (Year 4-7) 2028-2031: Capital projects with major impact

- Capture of landfill gas

- Implement efficiencies and low-carbon transport for waste collection services
- Wastewater treatment plant upgrade
- Energy efficiency upgrades, and decarbonisation (install solar, start purchasing energy certificates pending government direction)
- Begin further planting of GDC land for sequestration
- Development of natural burial site

Long-Term (Year 8+) after 2031: Further Decarbonisation and Climate Change Resilience

- Electric buses in next public transport contract renewal
- Further projects to implement depending on previous experience
- Plan next big climate action
- Collaborate with others to reduce climate change risks

9.3 Milestones

Based on LTP commitments, climate change roadmap and reduction actions, below is a proposed timeline:

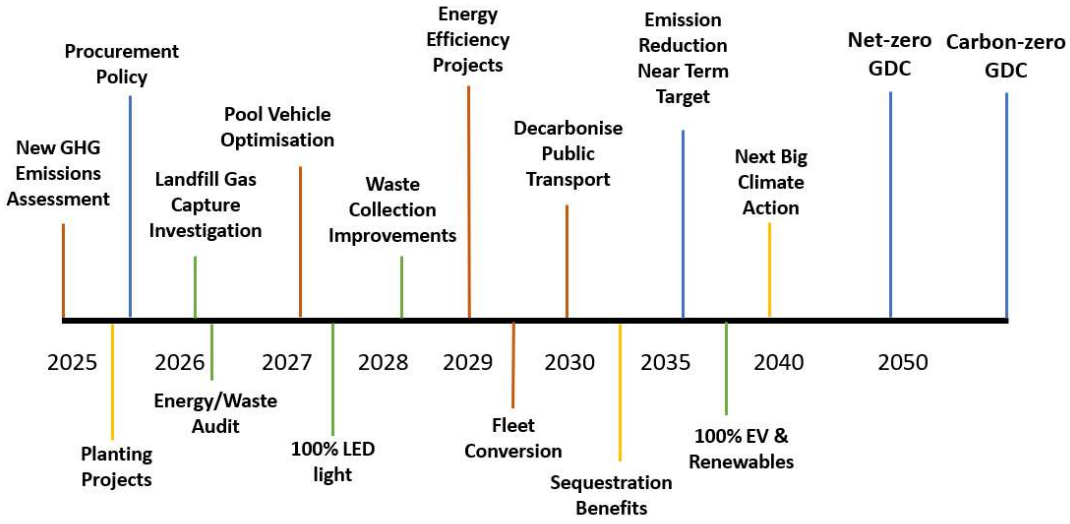


Figure 9: GDC carbon-zero proposed timeline with milestones.

10. References

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Appendix A: Climate Change Procurement

Procurement Policy Changes for Emissions Reduction

Procurement Planning Phase

For all projects over a certain value (we propose $1M) a minimum of 3 option concept designs, plus a 'do-nothing' option shall be presented which calculate both financial lifetime NPV costs and lifetime project emissions. A full CFP or LCA should be completed for each option to confirm that the carbon budget for the project is in line with the annual carbon operational budget for that council division. If it is, then it should proceed, if it is not, then further options should be assessed or the do-nothing option selected.

For projects between $100k and $1M GHG emissions shall be estimated using simplified methods and then compared with similar projects or known benchmarks.

As this phase also the assessment criteria would be set based on the value and complexity of the project. This would ideally be using standardised emissions criteria in line with the updated procurement policy.

Assessment Criteria for Tenderers

As per the developed assessment framework from 'Progressive Procurement'. This essentially scores suppliers higher if they have a policy, have a reduction plan and target, are reducing, achieve net zero etc.

For large projects including the suppliers' response to the CFP or LCA would ensure selection of the lowest GHG solution for that particular project. The suppliers response might be an indicative CFP based on a concept design.

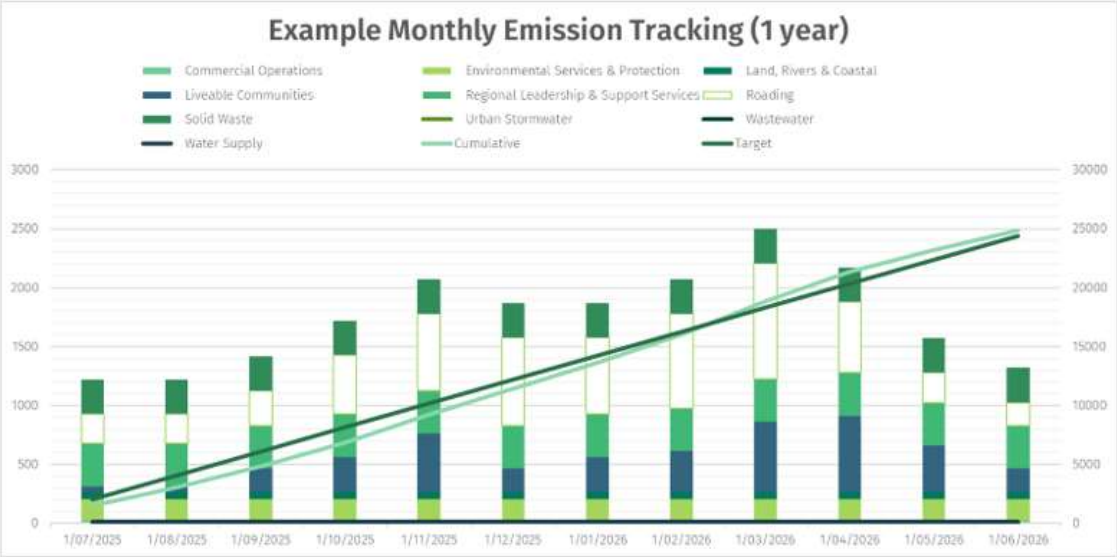
Specification for Supplier Engagement

Suppliers to provide basic emissions data on their operations, including fuel use, material use etc. These can be set in the contract specifications. This is critical and most relevant for maintenance contracts who have large and re-occurring emissions from operations.

Note the potential for large, long-term suppliers to automatically provide data through the likes of RAMM. These large contracts are key emitters, and so this should be an early focus area.

KPI (Key Performance Indicators) Aggregation to KRA's (Key Result Areas)

As contracts are run through the year, the supplier data is aggregated monthly in the same way as the financial budget. This this allows for visibility of progress and targets by management, and decision making around project changes. A key metric is the emissions 'spend' each month, coming from construction and maintenance activities completed in the month. A worked 12-month example is shown below, demonstrating how a flat line target line was set and then the light green actuals line shows the emissions spent during the year:


Example Monthly Emission Tracking (1 year)
Commercial Operations
Environmental Services & Protection
Land, Rivers & Coastal
Liveable Communities
Regional Leadership & Support Services
Roading
Solid Waste
Urban Stormwater
Wastewater
Water Supply
Cumulative
Target
3000
2500
2000
1500
1000
500
0
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
1/07/2025
1/08/2025
1/09/2025
1/10/2025
1/11/2025
1/12/2025
1/01/2026
1/02/2026
1/03/2026
1/04/2026
1/05/2026
1/06/2026

Draft Guidelines for Supplier Engagement

Gisborne District Council will incorporate emissions impact as a factor in evaluating all tenders. Tender documents will include sustainability questions to assess each supplier's journey on understanding and reducing their **emissions footprint** and managing their downstream emissions. For example, suppliers may be asked to disclose the greenhouse gas emissions associated with their goods or services and what policies or practices they have in place to reduce these emissions in line with New Zealand's net-zero 2050 target.

Selection criteria will prioritize low-emission providers by extending evaluation beyond price and quality to include environmental performance. Bidders that demonstrate robust emissions reduction policies or hold recognized sustainability certifications (e.g. Green Building Council standards) will receive a competitive advantage in. In addition, the Council will **encourage suppliers to progressively reduce emissions** over the life of the contract. This may include requiring bidders to have a carbon reduction plan or set improvement targets as part of their proposal. By rating supplier performance against clear sustainability criteria and insisting on year-over-year improvement where feasible, the procurement process itself will drive continuous emissions reductions in the supply chain. Ideally the targets set will align with the carbon budgets established for each division of council.

To support these criteria, the Council will issue clear guidelines to engage and partner with suppliers on our emissions goals. Communication of expectations is crucial – all requests for proposal (RFP) documents and pre-tender meetings will need to clearly state Council's climate objectives and the importance of emissions reduction in delivering the contract. Internally, staff will be empowered and resourced (with support from the internal climate team) to discuss sustainability requirements with suppliers and answer their questions. The Council will also provide education or training opportunities to help vendors understand how to measure and reduce their carbon footprint in line with GDC's expectations.

Every contract will include **contractual obligations for emissions tracking and reporting**. For long term maintenance contracts over $1M per annum suppliers will be required to record and report key data such as fuel consumption (e.g. volume of petrol or diesel used) and materials used to forfill the contract. These reporting requirements will be built into contract clauses (a sustainability reporting clause, ensuring accountability for emissions performance. Collected data will enable both the supplier and Council to monitor emissions during the contract term. For longer-term or large contracts, the Council may stipulate milestone targets (e.g. periodic emissions reductions or efficiency improvements) and require suppliers to report progress, thereby creating a **structured framework for suppliers to transition to lower emissions** over time. Some of the larger contracts (ie roading) directly input maintenance costs into the RAMM database, which includes resource usage. It is likely that emissions assessment can be automated to a large extent for these contracts through a database integration. The council Climate Team will support the contract manager, providing guidance and resources at every step. This collaborative approach – combining clear expectations, contractual commitments, and hands-on support – will help suppliers confidently invest in low-emission technologies and practices as part of doing business with Council.

Proposed Key Reporting Areas (KRA's)

Procurement

Tenders let with Emissions Standards	By % of total Value	100% after 1 year

Suppliers

Suppliers with a Strategy	By % of total Value	70% after 1 year
Suppliers Providing Emissions Data each year	By % of total Value	Increase by 25%
	By % Number of Suppliers	Increase by 15% each year
Suppliers with Reduction plan each year	By % Number of Suppliers	Increase by 15%
Suppliers Reducing Emissions target	In line with SBTi – T CO2-e	On target / below
	By % Number of Suppliers	Increase by 15% each year
	Carbon Neutral Suppliers	Increase by 5% each year

Emission Reduction

Dept Annual Emissions Reduction	In line with SBTi – T CO2-e	On target / below target
Total Annual Emissions Reduction	In line with SBTi – T CO2-e	On target / below target

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

To measure success, the Council will establish **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** related to supplier emissions, applicable to both large and small vendors. These KPIs will be embedded in contract management and supplier performance reviews. Examples of supplier-level KPIs include:

- **Emissions Reporting Compliance:** the percentage of contracted suppliers (or total contract value) providing required emissions data (e.g. fuel usage and material consumption reports) each reporting period. This KPI ensures both large and small suppliers are transparently tracking their emissions as agreed.
- **Emissions Intensity or Reduction:** the carbon emissions per unit of output or per dollar spent for key contracts, tracked annually. For major projects, the Council will move beyond rough estimates (spend-based factors) to actual carbon footprints reported by contractors. Improvement in this metric (a lower emissions intensity year-on-year) demonstrates suppliers are reducing emissions through efficiency or cleaner technology.
- **Supplier Engagement in Climate Initiatives:** the share of significant suppliers that have an active carbon reduction plan or science-aligned emissions target. This can be aggregated by division – for example, measuring how many construction contractors versus waste service providers have committed to specific reduction milestones. The Council can set a KPI (and a future target) for increasing the proportion of suppliers with such plans.

At a division-wide level, these **KPIs** will roll up into **KRA** metrics like the total estimated emissions associated with procured goods and services per department, and the percentage of overall procurement spend covered by emissions reporting. By aggregating data from individual contracts, council can track, for example, the overall emissions footprint of its construction activities or the cumulative fuel usage of all waste management contractors. Practical tracking methods will be employed – using simple reporting templates and possibly dedicated carbon accounting software for major projects – to gather consistent data without undue complexity. The Council will regularly review these KPIs, using them to identify areas for improvement and to recognize suppliers (large or small) that demonstrate outstanding emissions reduction performance. Working closely with the internal Climate Team will be essential, so that both the GDC staff and the Suppliers receive the support and tools they require to make these transitions.

Industry Prioritization

Given the varying emissions profiles of different sectors, the procurement plan will prioritise the large contracts (by value) and heavy industries such as construction and waste management for the earliest and most rigorous intervention. These sectors are significant contributors to Council's overall carbon footprint, and construction projects involve energy-intensive materials with high embodied carbon. Focusing on these areas first will have the greatest impact on reducing emissions and will signal Council's leadership in tackling the region's biggest emission sources. Procurement in other sectors (like office services or IT) will also include sustainability criteria, but the requirements may be scaled according to their emissions impact.

Construction Procurement: For building and infrastructure contracts, Council will adopt sector-specific best practices to cut emissions. This includes applying the Government's guidance for low-carbon construction procurement and MBIE's *whole-of-life embodied carbon assessment* methods at the design and tender stage. Tenders for construction projects will specify environmental performance standards – for instance, using low-emission machinery, recycled or low-carbon materials (such as green concrete or sustainably sourced timber), and designing for energy efficiency and waste minimization during construction. For projects over $1M Contractors may be required to submit a carbon management plan as part of their bid, and to provide an draft embodied carbon report for the project build. By embedding these requirements, Council ensures that new infrastructure is delivered with minimal carbon emissions and aligns with New Zealand's building sector climate response. Additionally, the Council will encourage construction suppliers to obtain relevant sustainability certifications (e.g. Infrastructure Sustainability (IS) ratings or Green Star for buildings) to demonstrate their capability in delivering low-carbon outcome.

Waste Management Procurement: In the waste sector, procurement rules will support Gisborne's waste minimization and emissions reduction goals. Contracts for waste collection, landfill management, and resource recovery will include criteria to reduce methane and CO_2 emissions. For example, waste service providers will be expected to implement best practices such as diverting organic waste to composting or digestion (to prevent landfill methane), optimising collection routes to reduce fuel use and trailing low emissions transport and machinery options. When awarding waste management contracts, the Council will favour providers that invest in low-emission technology – such as electric or hybrid waste collection trucks and energy-efficient equipment; and those who can demonstrate higher waste diversion rates (recycling, composting) to cut landfill volumes. Sector-specific KPIs (like emissions per ton of waste managed, or food waste diverted) may be written into these contracts to drive performance. Embedding progressive reductions over r the course of the contract will ensure the Council can tie in it's emission reduction targets with the supplier contracts. By tailoring

procurement expectations to the realities of each industry, the Council ensures that both construction firms and waste contractors have clear, relevant pathways to contribute to emissions reduction in their field. These measures reflect established best practices and national guidelines for sustainable procurement in high-impact sectors, and will help Tairāwhiti's heavy industries transition toward greener operations.

Cost and Simplicity Considerations

All proposed procurement changes will be designed with and simplicity in mind. Council is committed to reducing emissions in a cost-effective manner that does not unduly increase costs for either the Council or its suppliers. Notably, embedding emissions reduction criteria into procurement need not require significant new expenditure – the Council's Emissions Reduction Plan identified updates to procurement practices as a low-cost measure with high potential. In line with this, the focus will be on integrating climate considerations into existing procurement processes and decision-making frameworks, rather than creating new or expensive systems.

To avoid burdening suppliers (particularly SMEs) with overly complex requirements, the Council will adopt a proportional approach to emissions reporting and compliance. Reporting demands will be scaled to contract size and risk: for smaller contracts or suppliers with limited capacity, simple measures (such as a brief sustainability questionnaire or using spend-based emission estimates) may be used instead of detailed carbon audits. Larger contracts and high-emission projects, on the other hand, will carry more rigorous requirements (e.g. comprehensive emissions reporting or use of carbon tracking software) where the benefits justify the effort. This tiered approach ensures we gather necessary data to drive emissions reduction without overwhelming smaller suppliers with compliance costs.

The Council will also strive to simplify reporting methods wherever possible. Standardised templates and guidance will be provided so that suppliers can easily log fuel usage, electricity consumption, or other relevant metrics as part of their regular project reporting. Where feasible, data already collected for other purposes (such as fuel invoices or equipment logs) will be utilized to infer emissions, rather than asking for duplicate reports. The introduction of any new data collection (for instance, an annual carbon footprint statement from key suppliers) will be accompanied by clear instructions and support from Council staff. By streamlining these processes, the Council reduces the administrative load and helps suppliers focus on actual emissions reduction actions rather than paperwork.

The procurement policy changes will balance ambition with practicality. They are designed to drive progressive emissions reductions through smarter purchasing decisions and supplier partnerships, while keeping additional costs low and procedures user-friendly. This balance will help ensure broad supplier buy-in and effective implementation, making our emissions reduction objectives achievable within Council operations and the local market.

Table 1: Proposed Procurement Assessment Measures (Draft)

Assessment Measure	Description / What to Look For	Possible Evidence
Key Measures		
Environmental Policy in Place that includes GHG Emissions Reduction	**Has a business or project policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions**	**Policy**
Is actively reducing emissions	**Reduction plan in place and demonstrated greenhouse gas emission reductions**	**Policy** **Reduction Plan** **Emissions inventories**
Has achieved net-zero emissions	**Policy and reductions in place and has offset their GHG balance (scope 1 & 2) to achieve net-zero emissions**	**Verified Inventories demonstrating net-zero, or certification evidence.**
Is sequestering 20% more emissions than emitting	**Policy and reductions in place and has offset (scope 1 & 2) to achieve emissions 20% below net-zero**	**Verified inventories demonstrating 20% below net zero, or certification evidence.**
Optional Measures		
Low-Carbon Technologies & Practices	Use of cleaner fuels, renewable energy, or energy-efficient equipment. Minimizing waste and resource consumption in operations.	Proof of clean vehicle fleet or low-emission machinery Certificates (e.g. energy efficiency)
Waste Minimization & Recycling Strategy	How the supplier manages waste generated by contract activities, including recycling, composting, or reusing materials to reduce landfill.	Waste management policy Past performance data on waste diversion
Supplier's Track Record & Capacity	Demonstrated experience in delivering low-emission goods/services, including training programs for staff on climate and sustainability.	Sustainability certifications Case studies / references from past contracts
Monitoring & Reporting Commitments	Willingness and readiness to provide relevant emissions data regularly (e.g. fuel/electricity usage, waste volumes) in an agreed format.	Contractual clause or signed statement of data reporting Existing internal monitoring systems

Table 2: Summary of KRAs for Supplier & Division-Wide Performance (Draft)

Key Result Area (KRA)	Definition / Measurement	Application / Frequency
Annual Emissions Reduction with Monthly Tracking	Reduction in total or scope-specific CO_2e emissions compared to prior reporting period (expressed as a percentage).	Key measure for all council divisions; tracked monthly with annual targets.
Emissions Intensity (per unit output)	Tonnes of CO_2e per specified unit (e.g. per tonne of material processed, per km of roadway built).	Construction, waste, & other heavy industries; tracked per project phase.
Waste Diversion Rate	Percentage of project/operational waste diverted from landfill (via composting, recycling, repurposing).	Heavy industries & general suppliers; measured per contract deliverable.
Adoption of Low-Emissions Practices	Number or share of suppliers who introduce new low-emissions technologies or renewable energy sources, or reduce fossil fuel consumption during contract delivery.	Applied to high-impact suppliers; reviewed annually.
Supplier Environmental Policies	Number of suppliers with emissions embedded in environmental policy.	All suppliers; measured each year.
Supplier Emission Reductions	Number of suppliers achieving emissions reductions.	All suppliers; measured each year.
Net Zero Suppliers	Number of suppliers achieving net-zero emissions.	All suppliers; measured each year.
Sequestering Suppliers	Number of supplier achieving 20% below net zero emissions.	All suppliers; measured each year.

Appendix B: GHG Emissions Summary

GHG FY 18/19 and FY 23/24 emissions summary by ISO 14064-1:2018 Category, excluding GHL/CTO, from AECOM report 2025.

Table 8: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Summary FY 18/19 and FY 23/24

Category	Scopes	FY19 (tCO_2e)	FY24 (tCO_2e)
(ISO 14064-1:2018)	(ISO 14064-1:2006)		
Category 1: Direct GHG emissions and removals	Scope 1	14,476	11,528
Stationary combustion		52	46
Mobile combustion		313	394
Fugitive emissions (Landfill, Wastewater Treatment, Refrigerants)		14112	11,088
Category 2: Indirect GHG emissions from imported energy	Scope 2	857	598
Purchased electricity		857	598
Category 3: Indirect GHG emissions from transportation	Scope 3	1,094	205
Employee commuting		444	152
Business travel in vehicles not owned or operated by the organisation		98	49
GDC hotel stays			4
Other downstream transportation and distribution		553	
Category 4: Indirect GHG emissions from products used by the organisation		19,983	36442
Purchased goods and services including upstream emissions		4,426	16,897
Updated Capital Goods and Purchased Goods and Services from recalculation of base year		15,493	19501
Transmission and distribution losses		65	45
Category 5: Indirect GHG emissions associated with use of products from the organisation			
Category 6: Indirect GHG emissions from other sources		16	118
Other (Working from home, Go bus operational fuel use)		16	118
Total Gross Emissions		36,426	48,892

Appendix C: Paokahu Gas Recovery Feasibility Research

1

Paokahu Closed Landfill Methane Emissions – Feasibility Assessment and Recommendations

Overview

Paokahu Closed Landfill in Gisborne has been identified as a major contributor to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions (accounting for a significant portion of Council's emissions). In 2018, a surface methane survey was conducted to evaluate emissions and risks at the closed landfill. The primary goal now is to determine if the measured methane indicates enough volume or risk to justify further action (such as gas flaring or capture for methane destruction) in support of the Council's long-term climate strategy. This high-level assessment summarizes the 2018 survey findings, examines the viability of gas flaring, and outlines best-practice steps and recommendations for decision-making.

2018 Surface Methane Survey Findings

A flame ionization detector (FID) surface scan of the landfill was performed in March 2018 on a 50 m grid pattern (with closer checks around pipes and wells). The FID normally detects combustible gas (methane) down to 5 ppm. The survey found methane above detection limit at only three isolated spots, with all other locations reading 0 ppm. Two minor detections were around 20 ppm and 250 ppm – very low concentrations well below any health risk levels. One location, however, showed a methane concentration around **50,000 ppm (5% by volume)** near a groundwater monitoring well. This 5% reading exceeds the methane lower explosive limit and indicated a small pocket of gas venting at that well, posing a localized safety hazard if. The overall pattern of results in 2018 was similar to an earlier 2017 survey, suggesting these elevated readings were consistent at the same spots.

Interpretation

The survey team concluded that the landfill's soil cover (cap) is largely intact and impermeable, preventing most gas from escaping vertically. Essentially, methane was not freely venting through the cap, and only existing penetrations (wells, structures) provided pathways for any gas release. No extensive dead vegetation or cracks were noted, and no widespread surface emissions were detected. In terms of immediate safety/environmental risk, the findings implied minimal methane exposure at the surface across most of the site (with the exception of the one hotspot around a well). Routine landfill gas monitoring was deemed unnecessary at the time, barring visible signs of gas distress (e.g. dying vegetation or odours). In summary, the 2018 data did not show pervasive methane leaks – only isolated points, indicating the cap was performing well in containing landfill gas.

Significance of Measured Emissions

From a greenhouse gas perspective, the 2018 surface data suggests that observable methane emissions at the surface were very low across the landfill. The readings (20–250 ppm in most areas) are negligible, and even the 5% pocket was a localized occurrence. These concentrations do **not** directly equate to high volume overall methane flux – they simply show that apart from the one well-associated leak, methane was not easily detected in open air at ground level. In other words, no evidence of large-scale methane escape was found during the survey. This could mean that either:

- Methane generation within the waste had already declined significantly by 2018 (reducing the pressure and volume of gas available to emit), and/or
- The gas was largely trapped and being oxidized under the soil cover, with only small amounts diffusing out too low to detect.

It's important to note that Paokahu landfill closed in 2002. According to modelling using the IPCC first-order decay method, the landfill's methane production would have peaked around 2005 (just after closure) and is expected to gradually decline to near-zero by 2050 without intervention. By 2018 (roughly 15+ years post-closure), the model predicts a substantial drop from its peak generation. The field evidence in 2018 aligns with a site well past its peak methane output, implying the bulk of the generated gas had diminished or was being contained.

However, it's also possible that total methane generation was still significant in 2018 but simply not visible at the surface due to the intact cap. Landfill gas could be building up beneath the cover or venting in small quantities that diffuse and stay below the FID detection threshold. For example, the one reading of 5% at the well shows that methane was present under the cap in that area and found a path up along the well casing. If similar subsurface gas exists elsewhere but isn't finding an easy outlet, the FID survey would register zero even though methane might be seeping slowly (or laterally). So, the 2018 survey confirms there were no major leaks at the time, but it doesn't guarantee that the landfill isn't generating methane below the surface.

For the Council's emissions reduction, the key question is whether Paokahu is still emitting enough methane to warrant active mitigation. The inventory estimates used in Council's emissions reports treat Paokahu as a large ongoing emitter. Given the 2018 field data, there is some uncertainty here: the model-based estimates may be conservative or not account for oxidation by the cover. The MyImprint (2022) GHG strategy report for Council recommended verifying the model with site-specific measurements. In summary: The measured 2018 data by itself did not indicate "high" methane emissions at the surface, but it also doesn't fully answer how much methane is still being generated inside the landfill. There is enough evidence of some gas presence (e.g. the 5% reading) to justify further investigation before deciding on mitigation infrastructure.

Viability of Gas Flaring or Capture

Installing a landfill gas flaring or capture system at Paokahu would aim to collect methane before it escapes and burn it (converting CH_4 to CO_2, which has a much lower greenhouse impact). The feasibility of this depends on the gas quantity and quality, and economic factors (cost vs. benefit in emissions reduction):

Gas Volume and Flow

A flare system requires a sustained flow of landfill gas to operate. If the methane production has waned to a low level, there may not be enough continuous gas flow to keep a flare lit. Modern flares generally have a minimum operational flow requirement (on the order of 10 standard cubic feet per minute, or 17 m^3/hour) to maintain efficient combustion (Landfill Gas Flares - Selection Installation And Maintenance). If the landfill cannot produce this flow consistently, the flame would extinguish or operate inefficiently. Based on the 2018 survey, there were no strong indications of high gas output across the site – which raises concern that gas generation might be quite low now. On the other hand, if the modelled emissions (several hundred tonnes of CH_4 per year in the early 2010s) were accurate, the landfill might still

produce on the order of tens of cubic meters of methane per hour in 2018–2025 (though much of it not observed at surface). Determining the actual current gas flow is critical before investing in a production flare.

Methane Concentration

Landfill gas needs to have a sufficient methane content to burn. Typically, ≥20% methane by volume is needed for a self-sustaining combustion in a flare (ATSDR - Landfill Gas Primer - Chapter 5: Landfill Gas Control Measures). Fresh landfill gas is usually around 50% methane, but in an older, closed landfill without active extraction, the gas in pockets could become diluted (e.g. by air intrusion or diffusion). The one measured pocket at Paokahu was about 5% methane at the surface – too low to ignite, although it was likely higher at the source. An active gas extraction system could probably pull gas from waste that still has decent methane content. Nonetheless, if the overall gas quality is poor (well below 20% CH_4), flaring would require supplemental fuel to sustain combustion (ATSDR - Landfill Gas Primer - Chapter 5: Landfill Gas Control Measures), which adds cost and complexity.

Infrastructure and Cost

Implementing gas capture on a closed landfill involves installing gas wells across the waste mass, connecting them with piping, a vacuum blower system, and a flare (such as an open "candlestick" flare or an enclosed flare unit). There are upfront capital costs and ongoing operations/maintenance costs (e.g. electricity for blowers, monitoring, flare upkeep). For a site like Paokahu, which has been closed for over 20 years, we must consider if the remaining methane lifespan justifies these costs. If emissions will taper off naturally by around 2050, a new gas system might only be needed for 10–20 years of operation. The economic viability would come down to the cost per ton of CO_2-e reduced. Without energy generation or carbon credit revenue, the project would be a pure emissions-reduction expense. This can still be worthwhile for climate goals, but it must be weighed against other uses of funds for emissions reduction.

Technical Feasibility

If a test were done and found, for example, that Paokahu can produce a steady flow of landfill gas with high methane content, then a basic flare system could be technically feasible. Small-scale flares can handle low flows to a point, but they still have to meet combustion efficiency requirements. If gas is only coming out at a few discrete points, a single extraction well might capture most of it – but that would mitigate only a small fraction of the total waste mass. Conversely, if gas is spread out in low concentrations, a network of wells would be needed to gather it, which is more complex. It's also possible that actively extracting gas from a mostly dormant landfill could draw in air (since the waste mass is older and possibly fractured), resulting in low methane concentration in collected gas. Such issues can sometimes be managed (by tuning well vacuums or using an enclosed flare that can handle some oxygen), but they do add uncertainty.

Viability

Based on the 2018 data alone, investing in a full landfill gas capture and flare system at Paokahu right now appears marginal. The observed emissions were minimal, suggesting limited easily-captured gas. If the actual generative capacity of the landfill has waned, a flare could struggle to stay operational or might yield only a small emissions reduction relative to

cost. However, given Paokahu's prominence in the Council's emissions profile, it is worth further investigating the gas volume before ruling it out. There are cases of closed landfills where gas capture is still viable many years post-closure, especially if a lot of waste was deposited; Paokahu might fall in that category if the model estimates are correct. A cautious approach would be to conduct a feasibility study or pilot test to directly measure how much gas can be collected. If that study finds a meaningful flow (e.g. on the order of tens of m^3/hr of methane with good purity), then pursuing flaring could be justified as a climate mitigation project.

Best-Practice Methods to Assess Current Landfill Gas

As discussed above, we recommend the Council undertakes more robust assessment methods (beyond periodic surface FID scans) to determine if actionable quantities of landfill gas are still being generated at Paokahu. Current best practices are listed below, note that we recommend talking to a specialist to review and assess how best to approach this specific landfill. Tokin & Taylor have completed the surface gas assessment in 2018 and are available to update the IPCC decay model. The best practices below are indicative and have not been reviewed by a specialist:

Install and Monitor Gas Wells/Probes

Drill a few dedicated landfill gas monitoring wells or use existing wells (if available) that penetrate the waste. Measure methane, CO_2, and oxygen levels in these wells, and check for positive pressure. Consistently high methane concentrations in subsurface gas and any pressure buildup would indicate that significant gas is present and seeking pathways out. This is a direct way to gauge the subsurface gas conditions which a surface FID does not achieve.

Landfill Gas Generation Modeling (Site-Specific):

Refine the IPCC first-order decay model using site-specific data: total waste volume, waste composition (percent organics), closure date, moisture conditions, etc. This model can estimate how much methane the waste should be producing currently. The Council's climate reports already have a model, but it should be verified. As recommended in 2022, perform a more detailed analysis of Paokahu's emissions model to ensure it reflects reality. This might involve adjusting decay rates or considering methane oxidation in the cover. A good model can predict how much gas might be collectible versus how much is already oxidized in soil.

Flux Chamber Emission Survey:

To measure actual methane emission rates (as opposed to just concentrations), a flux chamber study can be done. This involves placing small sealed chambers on the landfill surface at various locations and measuring how much methane accumulates over time inside them. It provides a flux rate (e.g., grams of CH_4 per square meter per day) which can be extrapolated over the site. Even if the FID read 0 ppm in an area, a flux chamber might detect a low-level emission rate. By sampling a representative grid of points, one can estimate the total methane escaping the landfill currently. This method is more quantitative and sensitive for climate purposes. (If flux rates are found to be very low across the board, that supports the idea that little methane is reaching the atmosphere and active gas capture might not yield much additional benefit.)

Integrated Methane Plume Measurement:

For a large-area perspective, techniques like atmospheric plume monitoring can be used. For example, a mobile downwind methane detection (with a sensitive analyser mounted on a vehicle or drone) can scan the air around the landfill to detect any methane plume. Advanced methods like FTIR spectroscopy, DIAL (Differential Absorption Lidar), or drone-mounted laser sensors have been used in research to quantify emissions from landfills. These can detect even diffuse emissions by measuring methane concentration downwind and using wind data to back-calculate an emission rate. Employing such a method (perhaps through a specialized consultant or research partnership) could give an independent check on whether Paokahu is leaking significant methane to the atmosphere or not. It's a more involved approach, and still doesn't directly measure emissions from the under the surface.

Pilot Gas Extraction Test:

Perhaps the most telling approach would be to conduct a small-scale gas extraction trial. This would mean installing one or two extraction wells in areas likely to have gas (for instance, near the spot of the 5% reading or in historically deep waste zones) and connecting a temporary vacuum pump and flare or flow meter. By gradually applying vacuum, one can see how much gas (flow rate) comes out and measure the methane percentage. This test could be run for a few weeks to see if the flow is sustainable or drops off quickly (which might happen if only a limited pocket was drained). The data from such a pilot can directly inform the feasibility of a full-scale system: if you pull, say, 5–10 m^3/hr of methane from one well, that's promising; if you barely get 1 m^3/hr of low-quality gas, that suggests a full system would not be worthwhile. A pilot test would also highlight any issues like oxygen ingress or condensate that need managing. In essence, it de-risks the decision on investing in a permanent flare system by providing real performance data. An approach to this could be installing a test well, but ensuring it was a larger diameter bore so that if the tests proved positive, it could be used for the full scale production flare system.

Each of these methods would give the Council a clearer picture of current landfill gas conditions. In practice, a combination of these approaches is often used. For example, one might start with installing gas probes and doing some chamber tests; if those indicate potential for substantial gas, then proceed to a pilot extraction. Throughout this work experienced landfill gas engineers will be required to design the tests and interpret results.

Recommendations and Next Steps

The high-level recommendations are:

1. **Proceed with a detailed landfill gas feasibility study**: Given the discrepancy between the inventory model (significant methane emissions) and the 2018 surface measurements (minimal emissions), a focused study is warranted. This study should include field measurements (subsurface gas sampling, flux chamber or plume monitoring) and an updated generation model. Its goal would be to quantify how much methane is actually being produced and emitted now. The study would provide a sound basis to move forward with the next step.

2. **Conduct a gas extraction pilot trial:** Install a test extraction well and flaring unit on a trial basis (but one that could be integrated into a final system if testing was positive). Monitor the gas flow rate and methane content over a period (e.g. 3–6 months). This real-world trial will demonstrate whether there is enough gas to run a flare continuously and how much

greenhouse reduction could be achieved. If the pilot shows good results (stable high-% methane and sufficient flow), it strengthens the case for a permanent multi-well gas capture system. If it shows very low or unsustainable flow, the Council can pivot away from flaring with confidence that it was technically not viable.

3. **Evaluate alternatives if the gas is low**: If the advanced assessment finds that methane generation is now quite low or diffuse, active flaring may not be cost-effective – but the Council can still take steps to minimize residual emissions. One best-practice approach for low-gas landfills is enhancing the biological oxidation of methane in the cover soil. This can be done by improving the cover with materials that support methanotrophic bacteria (e.g. adding a compost layer or biofilter media in hotspot areas). Essentially, rather than actively capturing the methane, ensure that any slow leaks are neutralized in the soil before reaching the air. There may be the potential to integrate this with the annual woody debris removal, Port bark waste or Judds composting unit.

   Another option for small-scale gas pockets is installing passive vent flares – these are vents with a small ignition device that can burn off methane on an as-available basis without blowers. Passive flares are not as efficient as active systems, but they can tackle isolated high-concentration spots (such as the identified hot-spot) relatively cheaply. These alternatives should be considered if the full gas system is unwarranted. They can help incrementally reduce emissions and address any localized risk (the monitoring well leak) in line with safety best practices.

4. **Regular monitoring and reviews**: Regardless of immediate actions, continue to monitor the landfill condition on a schedule. For example, perform surface methane scans or visual inspections every few years – especially during summer dry conditions – to catch any new emission points as the cap ages. While the 2018 survey indicated the cap was effective then, over time settlement or erosion could open new cracks. Having an updated survey (e.g. doing another FID sweep in the present year) would inform the current state. Additionally, keep logging any gas readings from existing wells or probes installed. If any evidence of gas emissions emerges (e.g. sudden die-off of vegetation in an area, smelling landfill gas, or methane above thresholds in a probe), the Council should investigate and mitigate as needed. Maintaining this vigilance ensures that both safety risks and environmental emissions remain under control.

5. **Incorporate findings into climate strategy**: Once the Council has solid data on Paokahu's methane emissions, it can update its greenhouse gas reduction plan accordingly. If flaring is viable and chosen, the expected methane destruction can be counted toward the Council's emissions targets (noting that methane combusted to CO_2 still has a small CO_2 footprint). If it's not viable, the Council may decide to focus on other emission sources or offset strategies to meet its climate goals. Transparency around the decision is key – for example, if it's determined that Paokahu's emissions are actually low or that a flare is impractical, the Council can communicate that it's more effective to invest in other initiatives. Conversely, if it invests in gas capture, that decision can be showcased as a proactive climate action. Either way, align the next steps at Paokahu with the broader long-term emissions reduction pathway the Council is pursuing.

In conclusion, the 2018 survey alone did not show significant surface methane emissions at Paokahu, but given the landfill's prominence in the region's greenhouse gas profile, it is prudent to further investigate this. The data gathered from a comprehensive assessment will clarify whether an investment in flaring or gas capture infrastructure is warranted to meaningfully reduce emissions. By taking the recommended steps – from detailed monitoring to a pilot trial – the Council will be equipped with the information needed to make an evidence-based decision. This approach ensures that any actions (and expenditures) toward methane control at the closed landfill are justified by real climate benefits and aligned with best practices for landfill management.

Appendix D: Software Options for Managing GDC's Emissions Profile

Software Options for Managing GDC's Emissions Profile

Executive Summary

This report reviews software solutions for managing Gisborne District Council's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through three core stages:

Stage 1. Annual Inventory – Compile emissions data in compliance with standards.

Stage 2. Ongoing Tracking – Monitor progress between inventories.

Stage 3. Project Analysis – Estimate carbon savings and compare options.

Key Recommendations

A scalable, cost-effective GHG management strategy is achievable by combining:

- **Toitū, GreenHalo, or myCarbon** for inventories;
- **GreenHalo or myCarbon** for monthly tracking; and
- **ClearPath and Excel tools** for project evaluation.

Inventory Tools

Below is the updated summary of emissions management software tools across the three key stages—Annual Inventory, Inventory Tracking, and Project Analysis. The top two recommended tools for each stage are marked with **(recommended)**.

Stage 1: Annual GHG Inventory

Tool	Deployment	Key Features	Compliance Standards	Public Sector Usage	Estimated Annual Cost (NZD)
GreenHalo (recommended)	Cloud SaaS	Automated data feeds, Toitū export, board reports	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	NZ SMEs, councils (emerging)	$1,788–$11,988
myCarbon (recommended)	Cloud SaaS + Services and Local Support	Annual inventory, project analysis, Power BI integration	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Beta stage, customised development possible	$399 per project
CarbonEES e-Bench	Cloud SaaS	Energy/GHG tracking, benchmarking	ISO 14064-1 aligned	NZ councils, agencies	Custom quote
Toitū Envirocare	Cloud + Services	Full-service inventory & audit, NZ emission factors, certification	ISO 14064-1, GHG Protocol	80+ NZ government agencies	~$20,000
BraveGen	Cloud/Mobile SaaS	Automated data capture, multi-standard reporting	ISO 14064, CDP, GRI	NZ public & private organizations (large)	~$40,000/year
IBM Envizi	Cloud SaaS	Extensive factor library, auditor-ready reports, dashboards	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Used by cities, corporations globally	~$50,000–$75,000
Microsoft Sustainability Manager	Cloud (Azure)	Power Platform integration, goal tracking	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Early use in government agencies	~$66,000–$198,000
ICLEI ClearPath	Cloud (ICLEI)	Inventories, forecasts, action planning	GHG Protocol	600+ local governments	Free with ICLEI membership

Stage 2: Inventory Tracking (Monthly/Continuous Monitoring)

Tool	Deployment	Key Features	Compliance Standards	Public Sector Usage	Estimated Annual Cost (NZD)
GreenHalo (recommended)	Cloud SaaS	Automated feeds, monthly data uploads, target tracking	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	NZ SMEs, councils (emerging)	$1,788–$11,988
myCarbon (recommended)	Cloud SaaS + Services and Local Support	Monthly emissions tracking, Power BI integration	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Beta stage, customised development possible	$399 per project
CarbonEES e-Bench	Cloud SaaS	Energy/GHG tracking, benchmarking	ISO 14064-1 aligned	NZ councils, agencies	Custom quote
ESP	Cloud + IoT	Real-time utility analytics, carbon tracking	GHG Protocol	NZ public sector	Service-contract based
EnergyPro	Cloud SaaS	Live dashboards, performance alerts	ISO 14064-1	NZ councils, companies	Mid-range enterprise pricing
BraveGen	Cloud/Mobile SaaS	Automated data capture, dashboards	ISO 14064, CDP, GRI	NZ public & private organizations (large)	~$40,000
Microsoft Sustainability Manager	Cloud (Azure)	Data connectors, goal tracking, Power BI reports	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Early use in government agencies	~$66,000–$198,000
Salesforce Net Zero Cloud	Cloud (SFDC)	Integration with operational data, dashboards	GHG Protocol, ISO 14064	Select government pilots	
ICLEI ClearPath	Cloud (ICLEI)	Monitoring module for tracking emissions reduction actions	GHG Protocol	600+ local governments	Free with ICLEI membership

Stage 3: Project Analysis (Carbon Footprint & Options Assessment)

Tool	Deployment	Key Features	Compliance Standards	Public Sector Usage	Estimated Cost (NZD)
Custom Excel Calculators (recommended)	Desktop	Project-specific emissions calculations, MAC curves	GHG Protocol factors	NZ councils, consultancies	Minimal (staff time)
OpenLCA (recommended)	Desktop	Life-cycle assessment, open-source	ISO 14064-2, GHG Project Protocol	Universities, larger councils	Free
Project Emissions Estimation Tool (PEET)	Excel-based Tool	Whole-of-life GHG estimation for transport infrastructure projects	GHG Protocol	NZTA, Auckland Transport, KiwiRail	Free upon request
ClearPath	Cloud (ICLEI)	Action/scenario module for project analysis	GHG Protocol	600+ local governments	Free with ICLEI membership
The Footprint Company	Cloud SaaS	Embodied carbon calculator for buildings/infrastructure	ISO 14040/44, GHG Project Protocol	Local governments	Subscription or per-project fee
SimaPro	Desktop	In-depth life-cycle assessment	ISO 14064-2, GHG Project Protocol	Consultants, advanced users	Commercial license
GaBi	Desktop	Comprehensive LCA software	ISO 14064-2, GHG Project Protocol	Consultants, advanced users	Commercial license
Workiva	Cloud SaaS	ESG planning, scenario modeling	GHG Protocol	Enterprises, public sector	Enterprise pricing

Note: The estimated costs are approximate. Contact the vendors directly for precise quotation.

Appendix E: Draft Vehicle Replacement Strategy (Proposed changes in green)

Vehicle Replacement Policy

Policy References	
Sponsor:	Director Community Lifelines
Facilitator:	Lifelines Centre of Excellence
Effective:	June 2018
Internal review due:	June 2021

1. Background

Vehicles are a key are key piece of equipment to enable Council to undertake its territorial and regional responsibilities. Vehicles are used by a wide variety of teams in Council in their daily work and need to be safe and appropriate for use.

This policy provides the framework to guide decisions on purchasing and replacing vehicles.

Vehicles include cars, trucks, motorbikes, tractors, ATVs and other motorised forms of transport that are owned or leased by Gisborne District Council.

2. Purpose

The purpose of these guidelines is to:

- support Council's Vehicle Use Policy
- provide clarity to Asset Manager – Fleet and COR with respect to vehicle purchase and replacement
- provide an easy to read guide for staff to manage expectations for vehicle purchase and replacement.

3. Policy Statements

- ***Safety, fitness for use, and environmental sustainability will be key factors in choosing fleet vehicles and associated equipment.***

  Council has a duty to ensure vehicles are purchased with their intended use in mind and include an appropriate range of safety features. This includes 'aftermarket' equipment added separately after purchase. As vehicle users, staff have responsibilities for their own safety and the safety of others. These are detailed in the Vehicle Use Policy.

  Council committed to reduce its environmental footprint, and specifically to reduce the greenhouse gas Global Warming Potential. For this reason, vehicle purchases will be firstly EV, then PHEV, then HEV, then ICE, noting that the vehicle will still have to satisfy the use case and safety rating criteria.

- ***Net Present Cost and Carbon Footprint Calculations.***

  To support decision making, council will calculate the Net Present Cost (NPV) of the various vehicles proposed for purchase. Council will also calculate a rough order Carbon Footprint (CFP) of the options. Both metrics will be used by council to consider the best overall vehicle for purchase.

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- ***Council will make vehicle decisions to reflect the best overall use of the fleet.***

  This will ensure the most efficient and effective use of the fleet as a whole. This includes the right to choose models and makes, allocate or reallocate vehicles to staff for best fit across GDC. Council acknowledges vehicle use is part of employment contracts for some staff.

- ***Councils vehicles will be maintained in good working order***

  Council will service vehicles regularly and will check vehicles for legal roadworthiness as part of regular Warrant of Fitness (WOF) checks. Staff also have a responsibility to perform a vehicle pre-use check as detailed in the Vehicle Use Policy.

- **Vehicles will be replaced at appropriate times to promote safety and reduce operational costs.**

  As vehicles age or undergo intensive use, the risk of mechanical failure increases and repair and maintenance costs increase. Council will set replacement criteria to minimise these risks and will take reasonably practicable steps to replace vehicles once outside these criteria.

4. Vehicle Makes and Models

For general use, the type of make of vehicle shall be determined by matching the operational requirements for the vehicle with the All of Government (AoG) vehicle catalogue. This offers significant savings in purchase and overall total cost of ownership.

For vehicles provided under an employment contract/agreement, details of the approved category vehicles for particular positions are determined by the Chief Executive. The VTS Business Manager will advise on the choice and prices of vehicles within the categories available.

For new employee positions, provision of a motor vehicle will be decided as part of the position approval process. Allocation of a vehicle to a position which did not previously qualify for one requires the approval of the Chief Executive.

5. General Vehicle Characteristics and Safety Features

All vehicles will be diesel, electric or hybrid (dual electric and petrol/diesel), white (high visibility), automatic, will have the GDC logo and will be ANCAP* 5 (where reasonably practicable). Light commercial vehicles should be Cab Plus or Double Cabs (for people transport during Civil Defence emergencies). All vehicles will have a 2-way digital radio and a vehicle GPS unit.

All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) will have seatbelts and roll over protection.

Optional 'aftermarket' equipment may include:

- Special tyres
- Capacity for towing/towbars
- Decks/lifting equipment
- Other specialist equipment

Any aftermarket equipment fitted must comply with relevant standards.

* Australasian New Car Assessment Programme tests (ANCAP - available on the LTSA website www.ltsa.govt.nz)

6. Vehicle Replacement Criteria

Existing vehicles will qualify for replacement when either the following km travelled or age criteria are met.

Vehicle type	Kilometres (000 km)	Age (yrs)
Passenger (Hatch, Sedan, Wagon, SUV)	60-90	4-5
Light Commercial (Utes and Vans with limited specialist fitout)	90-120	5-6
Light Commercial (Utes and Vans with significant specialist fitout)	90-180	6-7
Medium Commercial	250-750	6-9
Heavy Trucks (over 5 tonne, HT licence)	600-1,000	7-10
Motorbikes, ATVs, tractors and other	VTS Business Mgr/GDC	Judgement *

* based on fitness for purpose, health and safety considerations and Council brand/image.

7. Vehicle Replacement Plan

Vehicles qualifying for replacement (as per criteria above) will be replaced on a risk based priority defined in a 10 year Vehicle Replacement Plan and will be approved by Director: Community Lifelines.

8. Replacement/Allocation Process

Staff requiring a change to their allocated vehicle (or to request one if their position hasn't previously needed one) should initially discuss and get approval (in principle) from their Manager/Director.

A case for a change in vehicle requirements should be emailed to GDC Vehicle Asset Manager. This should include any additional equipment requirements. Requests will be discussed with the GHL Fleet Manager and referred to the Director: Community Lifelines for approval. This will evaluated on its own merits, but will include efficiency of the overall fleet. Any decision may include vehicle pooling or redeployment of vehicles within or across Council Hubs.

9. New Vehicle Procurement Process

Council will match operational requirements for the vehicle with those offered by suppliers in the All of Government (AoG) vehicle catalogue. This offers significant vehicle purchasing and total cost of ownership advantages. A strong business case must be made to purchase a vehicle outside of the AoG catalogue.

A purchase order must be raised and approved by the Director: Community Lifelines prior to purchase. Council staff will then source and set up the vehicle for use.

10. Sale of Vehicles

Vehicles that are replaced will be sold by open auction. Funds received from the sale process will be used to support the capital vehicle replacement programme.

11. Vehicles for summer students or temporary staff

Over the summer period, students are often employed to assist with projects and general work and sometimes need access to 4WD, light commercial vehicles. Vehicles of this class qualifying for replacement prior to Xmas would be replaced, but the existing vehicle would be retained over the summer months and onsold in autumn. Note that these vehicles would still be within policy e.g. a light

commercial vehicle that has travelled 100km and is 5.5 years old is still within policy but qualifies for replacement in the near term.

12. Scope/Application

This policy applies to all sections of Council that manage and operate vehicles. This policy does not apply to Council Controlled Organisations that own and manage vehicle assets themselves e.g. Gisborne Holdings Ltd.

13. Key Vehicle Documents

- Vehicle Use Policy #856911
- Vehicle Replacement Policy #703318
- Vehicle Fleet Asset Management Plan #781880

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Authorised by Chief Executive (signature)

Appendix F: Draft Vehicle Management Strategy

Vehicle Fleet Management Plan

Gisborne District Council

Introduction

This Vehicle Fleet Management Plan outlines a roadmap to transition the Gisborne District Council's fleet of approximately 100 vehicles to 100% electric over the next 5 – 10 years. The fleet consists of approximately 80% internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, 15% plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs), and 5% fully electric vehicles (EVs). The Fleet Management Plan is a key component of the Council's Emissions Reduction Plan, aligning with New Zealand's net-zero goals by 2050. It focuses on phased fleet electrification, targeted early replacement of high-emission vehicles, deployment of charging infrastructure, and optimization strategies (shared pools, downsizing, and telematics) to maximize efficiency and minimise carbon emissions.

Current Fleet Overview

Gisborne District Council's fleet supports a range of services across urban and rural areas. Recent initiatives have introduced low-emission vehicles: for example, the Council acquired Nissan Leaf EVs and hybrid SUVs in prior years and installing charging stations at Council facilities. Many fleet vehicles (particularly passenger cars) are on a 3–4-year replacement cycle (or 60,000 – 90,000 km), meaning a sizable portion of the fleet is due for turnover every few years. This creates a significant opportunity to replace retiring vehicles with EVs as a matter of course. The Council's rural operational needs mean about two-thirds of vehicles have historically been 4WD/high-ground-clearance types for long-distance travel. However, the other third are town-based passenger vehicles that can be transitioned to electric models more readily. This plan leverages the normal vehicle upgrade rate and government procurement programs to ensure each replacement moves the fleet toward full electrification.

Fleet Electrification Strategy

Goal: Convert 100% of the fleet to electric vehicles within 5 – 10 years, by systematically replacing ICE vehicles with EVs (or PHEVs where necessary) at the time of normal renewal. This strategy aligns with the New Zealand Government's "EV-first" procurement policy, which requires mandated agencies (note that GDC is not a mandated agency) to choose a battery electric vehicle (BEV) or, if not suitable, a PHEV when replacing fleet vehicles (Plan to optimise and reduce fleet emissions | New Zealand Government Procurement). Note that the goal relies on the increasing availability of 4WD PHEV or EV vehicles in the market. Key elements of the strategy include:

- **Procurement Policy:** Where possible, all new fleet purchases will be EV by default, with PHEVs as an alternate solution if a BEV cannot meet operational requirements. Lastly ICE vehicles will be considered for situations such as long trips, 4WD vehicles and vehicles towing heavy loads. Purchases of ICE vehicles (e.g. for a specialized vehicle) must be justified and approved at the chief executive level. The Council will utilize the New Zealand Government's All-of-Government vehicle procurement scheme to access a broad range of EV models and favourable pricing. Note that recently high-clearance 4WD PHEV vehicles with high towing capacities have entered the market, with more to come; these recent entries into the market should be trailed and considered for out-of-town use, and adopted wherever possible.
- **Benefit: Cost Assessment:** When making purchasing decisions, the use of a benefit cost calculator, that includes a simplified carbon lifecycle assessment, shall support the vehicle selection process. The assessment tool shall consider the vehicles cost, likely maintenance requirements, fuel efficiency, fuel types, disposal value and carbon intensity (both in construction and use) to obtain a complete view of both overall Net Present Cost and overall Lifecycle Carbon Footprint. An example assessment is appended.
- **Replacement Methodology:** Vehicle replacements will occur at the end of each vehicle's economic life, following the usual upgrade cycle (generally every 3 – 5 years for light vehicles). Rather than prematurely scrapping relatively new vehicles, this phased approach ensures cost-effectiveness by syncing with normal depreciation schedules. As each ICE vehicle comes due for replacement, it will be replaced with an EV (or a PHEV if an EV equivalent is not yet available for that vehicle class). This steady turnover means the fleet's EV share will climb each year and adopt current technology as it comes available. For example, passenger cars (with 3 - 4-year lifespans) will be nearly all-electric by about year 5 of the plan, while some longer-service utility trucks might be replaced by year 5 – 10 as suitable EV models become available.
- **Prioritization of High-Impact Vehicles:** The transition will prioritize high-utilization, short-trip, and high-emitting vehicles for early replacement. Vehicles that are used most frequently or rack up the highest mileage (e.g. pool cars used daily by staff, city maintenance vehicles) will be first in line for electrification since converting these delivers the greatest immediate emissions reduction. Likewise, vehicles that operate primarily on short trips or within town (where driving ranges are easily covered by EVs) are ideal early candidates. In contrast, specialized 4WD vehicles needed for long-range

rural travel may be scheduled for later replacement, giving the EV market time to offer suitable 4x4 models. By focusing on vehicles that don't require off-road or extreme range capabilities, the Council can achieve quick wins in emission. High-emitting older models will also be retired sooner. Overall, this prioritized approach ensures the biggest emitters and easiest converts are tackled first.

- Timeline and Targets: Years 1 – 2: Begin replacement of passenger cars and frequently used light vehicles with EVs; expand pilot use of EVs/PHEVs in various departments to build user familiarity. Years 3 – 5: Accelerate fleet turnover – by Year 5 aim for at least 50% EV/PHEV composition, including nearly all sedans, city SUVs, and light vans converted. Years 6 – 10: Replace remaining ICE vehicles, focusing on the more challenging segments (e.g. rural 4WD utilities) as EV technology for these improves. By Year 10 (2035 at latest), achieve 100% zero-emission fleet. Progress will be reviewed annually, and the plan updated to reflect technology developments or operational changes. Notably, if viable electric utility trucks or 4x4s enter the market sooner, the Council will adjust the schedule to adopt those as early as possible. This adaptive timeline ensures a 100% EV fleet no later than 2035, with a strong ambition to reach that goal closer to 2030 if feasible.

Charging Infrastructure Deployment

Supporting infrastructure will be deployed in tandem with vehicle electrification to ensure the new EV fleet is effectively powered. The Council's charging infrastructure plan involves a mix of centralized depot charging and decentralized charging at various facilities, tailored to usage patterns:

- **Centralized Charging Hubs:** The primary depot and main Council offices in Gisborne city will be equipped with multiple charging stations to serve the bulk of the fleet. Already, the Council has installed an initial set of chargers (three charging units in the main council carpark) as part of recent building upgrades. Building on this, the plan will add a sufficient number of Level 2 (AC) chargers for overnight charging of EVs based at the main office or works depot. For example, if 20 EVs park at the main depot overnight, at least 10 dual-output chargers (or equivalent) will be installed so that every vehicle can recharge during off-peak hours. These centralized chargers allow for efficient energy management and maintenance. Furthermore, one or two DC fast chargers may be installed at the central depot to enable quick top-ups or to support electric vehicles that have high daily use and short turnaround times (e.g. a vehicle used continuously through the day can get a fast charge during a brief break).

- **Decentralized Charging at Satellite Facilities:** Council facilities outside the main office – such as the Te Puia Springs service centre, libraries, community hubs, and any remote depots – will also receive charging infrastructure appropriate to the number of EVs stationed there. For instance, the Council has planned charger installation at the Te Puia Springs service centre, recognizing the need for on-site charging in rural service areas. Similar deployments will occur at any location where fleet EVs are regularly kept. This distributed charging approach ensures that employees in outlying areas can charge fleet vehicles when on longer trips. Where feasible, the Council will seek external funding or partnerships (such as government Low Emission Vehicle fund grants) to co-fund these charger installations.

  Also, providing facility for staff to charge their own vehicles in a council car park would help their conversion to EV and reduce the emissions associated with to and from work travel.

- **Charging Strategy and Management:** All chargers will be networked and managed to optimize electricity usage. Charging will be scheduled primarily overnight or during periods of low facility load to take advantage of off-peak electricity rates and reduce strain on the grid. At central sites, load management systems may be used to stagger charging times if many vehicles are plugged in simultaneously. The Council will coordinate with the local electricity provider (Eastland Network) to ensure electrical capacity is upgraded where needed. Fleet charging policies will be established: for example, drivers of PHEVs will be required to charge them daily so that the majority of their operation is in electric mode, and pure EVs will have designated charging slots to maintain readiness. In addition, the Council will encourage use of public charging infrastructure for en-route top-ups on long trips to supplement Council-owned stations. By rolling out a charging network both centrally and at satellite sites, the transition to EVs will not be limited by infrastructure availability.

Fleet Optimization and Low-Carbon Utilization

Converting the fleet to electric is complemented by optimizing how the fleet is used. This ensures maximum utilization, minimal waste, and the lowest possible emissions from all Council transportation. Key optimization strategies include:

- **Shared Vehicle Pool:** The Council will move toward a pooled vehicle system, rather than dedicating vehicles to individuals or departments when not strictly necessary. A centralized vehicle pool with an online booking system will allow staff to reserve vehicles from a common fleet for official travel. This approach increases overall utilization rates and can reduce the total number of vehicles needed, as the same EV can serve multiple users sequentially. By consolidating trips and eliminating redundant idle vehicles, the Council can dispose of underused cars and avoid purchasing new ones, thus cutting costs and emissions. Pool management software and keyless entry systems may be introduced to streamline access to shared cars. Priority in the pool will be given to EVs so that on most trips, employees are driving electric. Only if an EV is unavailable or unsuitable for a specific task (e.g. a very long trip or need for special equipment) would a conventional vehicle be booked, and even those will be phased out over time. A well-run pool also enables fleet rotation – balancing mileage across vehicles – which helps extend vehicle life and schedule maintenance efficiently.
- **Vehicle Downsizing and Right-Sizing:** An optimization review will be conducted to ensure each vehicle in the fleet is properly matched to its function. The Council will assess opportunities to downsize to smaller or more efficient vehicles where possible. For example, replacing large SUVs or utility vehicles with smaller electric cars for urban inspection routes can save energy. If a task does not require a heavy 4WD ute, staff should use a compact EV instead. Additionally, the Council will promote alternative low-carbon transport modes for appropriate trips: staff are encouraged to use the Council's e-bikes and e-scooters for short trips to meetings around town, which has already proven successful in replacing some short car journeys. By using bikes or walking for city-centre trips, the fleet's usage (and associated emissions) is further reduced. Every new vehicle request will be scrutinized – perhaps a plug-in hybrid or even no vehicle (if a task can be done via teleconference or active transport) might suffice, instead of defaulting to a petrol car. This right-sizing principle avoids using an oversized, high-carbon vehicle when a smaller EV or other solution can do the job.
- **Telematics and Data-Driven Management:** The Council will leverage telematics (GPS tracking and on-board diagnostics) in fleet vehicles to gather data on usage patterns, routes, idling time, and driving behaviour. Where available, telematics systems and usage logs will help identify underutilized vehicles and opportunities to improve efficiency. For instance, if data shows a particular vehicle is only used a few times a week, that vehicle could be eliminated or merged into the pool, with its duties covered by other EVs. Telematics can also monitor how often PHEVs use gasoline versus electric mode, informing training or policy changes (such as reminders to charge PHEVs, or assigning them to routes where charging is available). The data will support ongoing optimization of the fleet, analysing vehicle duty cycles to ensure the fleet composition meets actual needs without excess. Results from these analyses will guide adjustments

like changing vehicle allocation, relocating vehicles to different base sites for better access, or modifying replacement priorities. Moreover, telematics can encourage eco-driving habits through feedback to drivers, further reducing fuel consumption for the remaining ICE/PHEVs in use. The councils use of EROADS can be utilised to achieve some of these goals.

- **Policy and Behavioural Measures:** The Council will implement policies to ensure the lowest-carbon vehicle is used for each trip. This means that if an electric car is available and suitable, staff should use it in preference to a petrol vehicle. Internal booking procedures and staff guidelines will reinforce this principle, by showing the person booking the range of the vehicle so it can align with their destination. Driver training will be provided on efficient EV operation (such as smooth acceleration to preserve battery range) and on maximizing PHEV efficiency (using electric mode as much as possible, plugging in whenever possible). By fostering a culture of sustainability, the Council ensures that technology investments (like EVs and charging stations) translate into real emissions reductions. Additionally, the fleet team will consider short-term rentals or car-sharing with other agencies for very infrequent needs (e.g. renting a heavy truck for a specific project rather than maintaining one in the fleet year-round). All these steps help minimize the fleet's carbon footprint beyond just vehicle technology.

- **Travelling to and from Work:** Some vehicles are used by staff to travel to and from work each day as part of their employment agreement. These vehicles generally clock up more short-trip kilometres and so for this reason make good candidates for conversion to EV. However, priority may be determined by how much the specific vehicle is being used in total, as there may be situations where the vehicle is used primarily by a single user (with low kms) opposed to being used in a pool. If possible, ensuring these vehicles can be used as part of the pool, after they arrive at work, would benefit the scheme overall.

  We note that almost 50% of staff surveyed may carpool with other people. Creating a simple mechanism to allow this to happen, such as socialisation of the idea, a booking system or reward mechanism could reduce the number of car movements to and from work. Also, it could be a requirement of 'take-home' cars that the drivers must be available to carpool.

Implementation and Monitoring

Implementing this plan will require coordination across Council departments, robust budgeting, and regular progress monitoring. The transition to a 100% EV fleet will be integrated into the Council's annual planning and procurement cycles. Leadership and accountability are key: the fleet manager (or sustainability manager) will oversee execution of the plan, and progress will be reported yearly to Council leadership and through the Emissions Reduction Plan updates. Some key implementation actions and monitoring steps include:

- **Budgeting & Funding:** A capital and operational budget will be maintained for vehicle replacements and charging infrastructure installations each year. The Council will take advantage of the NZ Government Procurement Programme and any subsidies/incentives for EVs to reduce costs. Savings from lower fuel and maintenance expenses of EVs (which are cheaper to run per km than ICE vehicles) will be tracked and re-invested into the transition. External funding opportunities (such as EECA's Low Emission Transport Fund) will be pursued for charging equipment and pilot programs, to leverage co-funding where possible.
- **Infrastructure Rollout Coordination:** The charging infrastructure deployment will be closely coordinated with the vehicle rollout. A detailed schedule will ensure that before new EVs arrive, appropriate charging points are in place at their parking locations. Facilities management and electrical contractors will be engaged early to plan necessary electrical upgrades. Risk management plans (backup chargers, generator availability, etc.) will be developed to address any outages or unexpected issues.
- **Progress Milestones:** The Council will set interim targets (e.g. 25% EV by 2027, 50% by 2030, etc.) and measure progress against these milestones. An emissions baseline for the fleet will be established (using fuel consumption data from the current ICE fleet) and then monitored annually. As more EVs are introduced, tailpipe CO_2 emissions are expected to drop proportionally. Monitoring will include not only the number of EVs but also their utilization rates – ensuring the EVs are being used to the fullest. If targets are not being met, the plan will be reviewed to identify obstacles (such as vehicle supply issues or operational challenges) and corrective actions will be taken. The fleet plan itself will be updated annually as part of the Council's broader climate strategy reviews, keeping it as a living document that responds to new developments (for example, if new EV models come to market or if government policies change).
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Council staff and vehicle users will be engaged throughout the transition. Feedback from drivers on EV performance will be collected to address any concerns (range anxiety, charging procedures, etc.) and to improve training. The Council will also communicate its fleet progress to the community as a demonstration of leadership in sustainability. By sharing lessons learned with other local authorities and collaborating on bulk procurement or infrastructure where feasible, Gisborne District can help set wider best practices.

Conclusion

This Vehicle Fleet Management Plan provides a clear, phased approach for Gisborne District Council to achieve a 100% electric vehicle fleet within the next decade. By prioritizing high-impact vehicle replacements, leveraging the normal replacement cycle and government procurement support, investing in comprehensive charging infrastructure, and optimizing fleet use through pooling, downsizing, and telematics, the Council will significantly reduce its transport emissions. The plan not only contributes to the Council's emissions reduction goals and New Zealand's climate targets, but also promises operational benefits like lower fuel costs, reduced maintenance, and a modernized fleet. Through committed execution and regular review, Gisborne District Council will transition its approximately 100-vehicle fleet to one that is fully electric, highly efficient, and aligned with a sustainable future.

Research Supported with Digital Intelligence

Appendix G: Example Vehicle NPV and CFP Calculation Summary

Financial Budgeting : NPV Output

Car Models	Ford FX 4 Diesel 2.0 Bi Turbo	Ford Courier 2.5 Turbo Diesel	Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV 2.0 Petrol	Suzuki Vitara Diesel 1.9	Toyota Hilux	Nissan Leaf	-	-	-	-	-
Net present value	-$ 152,890.45	-$ 111,609.57	-$ 88,522.99	-$ 113,978.37	-$ 115,119.67	-$ 59,841.65	0	0	0	0	0

Admin:The Net Present Value shows the $ cost of the vehicle over the 20 year period. The lowest cost represents the best financial decision.

Carbon Profile (Gross emissions) Estimated embodied carbon and other emissions

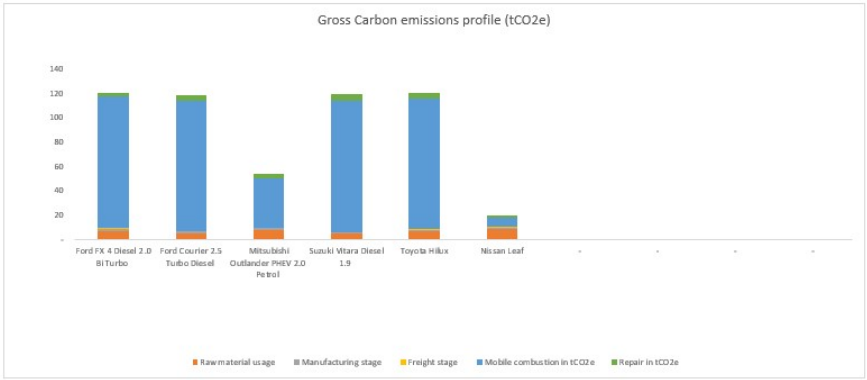
Gross emissions output	Ford FX 4 Diesel 2.0 Bi Turbo	Ford Courier 2.5 Turbo Diesel	Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV 2.0 Petrol	Suzuki Vitara Diesel 1.9	Toyota Hilux	Nissan Leaf	-	-	-	-	-
Raw material usage	6.91	4.42	7.75	4.31	6.20	8.34	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Manufacturing stage	1.80	1.80	1.20	1.20	1.20	1.20	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Freight stage	0.83	0.53	0.63	0.48	0.69	0.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Mobile combustion in tC	107.36	107.36	40.68	107.36	107.36	8.00	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Repair in tCO2e	3.10	3.72	3.10	6.19	4.35	1.86	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0
Total Gross tCO_2e emiss	120.00	117.82	53.35	119.54	120.40	19.30	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Total Gross $kgCO_2e$ emis	119996.47	117820.18	53353.13	119544.49	120403.70	19304.78	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	

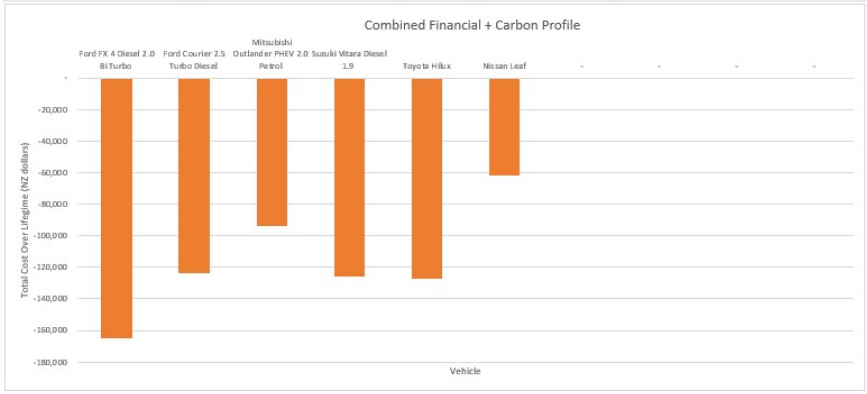
Admin:The Total Gross Emissions shows the emissions from construction and running of the vehicle over the 20 year period. The lowest emissions value represents the best choice for Greenhouse Gas Emissions

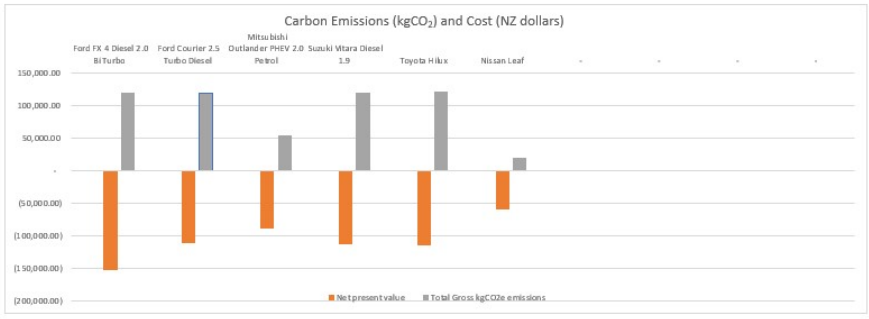
Combined Financial + Carbon Profile

Total Vehicle Carbon Cos	-$ 11,993.65	-$ 11,782.02	-$ 5,335.31	-$ 11,954.45	-$ 12,040.37	-$ 1,930.48	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Combined Vehicle Cost	-$ 164,890.10	-$ 123,391.59	-$ 93,858.30	-$ 125,932.82	-$ 127,160.04	-$ 61,832.12	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

Admin: The carbon cost is based on cost of carbon in the ETS. Default is set to $100 per tCO2e







Appendix H: Emissions Monitoring, Reporting & Verification (MRV) Framework

Comprehensive MRV Framework based on the GDC Emissions Reduction Plan 2025–2050 and the FY 23/24 Organisational Emissions Inventory.

1. Purpose & Scope

The purpose of this MRV Framework is to ensure that GDC's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data are measurable, reportable, and verifiable in alignment with ISO 14064-1:2018 and the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) GHG Inventory Guidance. It provides a structure for consistent data collection, transparent reporting, and independent verification to support GDC's Emissions Reduction Plan 2025–2050.

Scope: All GHG emissions under GDC's operational control (including GHL), covering Scopes 1–3 and reported sequestration (LULUCF).

The MRV has the following key principles:

1. **Measurable** – All activity data must be quantifiable and based on credible sources.
2. **Reportable** – Data and results are documented and traceable for internal and external review.
3. **Verifiable** – Independent reviewers can reproduce calculations and confirm accuracy.
4. **Transparency** – All assumptions, EFs, and limitations are clearly disclosed.
5. **Consistency** – Same boundaries and methods applied across time series unless restated.
6. **Accuracy** – Systematic bias minimised; uncertainty quantified where possible.

And operates in an annual process as outlined below:

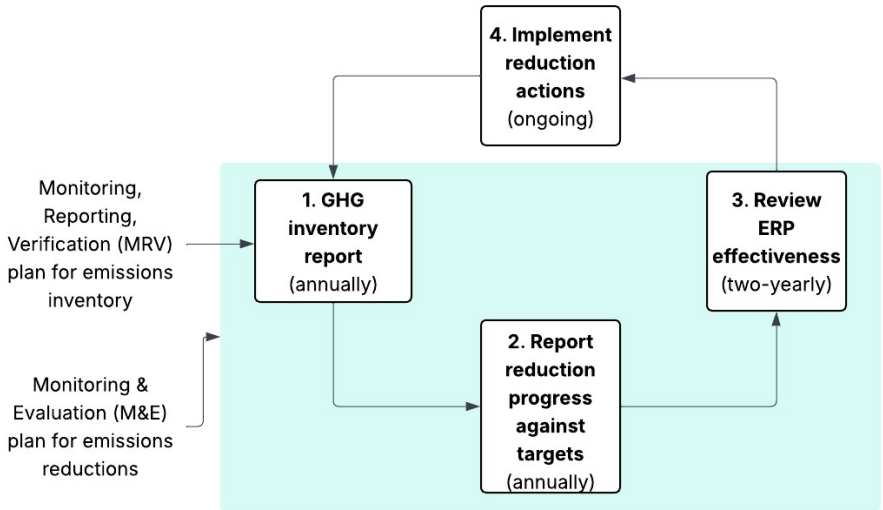


Figure 10 Proposed ERP tracking and review cycle.

An implementation roadmap is proposed below:

Year	Milestones	Deliverables
FY25	Establish MRV policies, EF register, QA training	MRV Policy; QA Checklist; Data Dictionary
FY26	First external verification, uncertainty analysis	Verified Inventory; Assurance Report
FY27–28	Supplier actual data >60% Scope 3 coverage	Comparability/Restatement Report
FY29+	Full ISO alignment, digital MRV automation	Digital MRV System

2. Governance and Accountability

Roles and responsibilities for maintaining the integrity of the MRV system:

Role	Responsibilities	Verification Involvement
Senior Responsible Owner (Director – Sustainable Futures)	Accountable for MRV integrity, system oversight, and sign-off.	Reviews assurance outcomes and approves verified reports.
Inventory Owner (Sustainability/Climate Team)	Manages data systems, methods, QA/QC, and inventory compilation.	Coordinates verification process and provides evidence packs.
Data Stewards (by source)	Collect and validate activity data across categories.	Maintain traceable source documentation for verifier access.
Finance Team	Provide GL, procurement, and energy spend data.	Support evidence for Scope 3 spend-based calculations.
External Verifier (ISO-qualified)	Conducts independent verification under ISO 14064-3.	Issues verification statement and findings report.

3. Monitoring System

The data collection structure across emission sources is outlined below:

Source Category	Activity Data	Measurement Method	Frequency	Owner
Landfills (Paokahu, Waiapu)	Tonnage, composition, decay factors	IPCC FOD model	Quarterly/Annual	Solid Waste
Wastewater	Flow volumes (ML)	MfE factors for N_2O/CH_4	Quarterly	Wastewater Ops

Fleet Fuels	Litres per fuel type	Fuel invoices, EF (MfE) / direct download	Monthly	Facilities
Electricity	kWh billed	Supplier invoices / or direct download	Monthly	Facilities/Finance
Refrigerants	kg gas charged	Service logs × GWP	Annual	Facilities
Procurement (Capex/Opex)	Spend by category	Spend × EF (MfE/Thinkstep) Moving to supplier specific EF	Quarterly	Procurement
Travel & Accommodation	km/nights	Travel system export	Quarterly	Finance
GHL Data	Fuel, energy, WWTP data	GHL independent reporting of inventory	Quarterly	GHL Lead

4. QA/QC Controls

Quality assurance and control procedures ensure data reliability and traceability.

Stage	Check	Evidence	Owner
Data Entry	Activity data checked against invoices/logs	Invoices/logs retained and uploaded	Data Steward
Calculation	EF version and conversions verified	EF Register log	Inventory Owner
Aggregation	Year-on-year variance checks	Trend report	Inventory Owner
Reporting	Internal peer review and sign-off	Approval memo	SRO
Archiving	Data retained ≥7 years	File register/ software used	Sustainability Team

5. Reporting Framework

Level	Output	Frequency	Audience/Purpose	Verification Link

Operational Dashboard	Live Scope 1–2 estimates	Monthly	Internal operations	Input to annual report
Quarterly Summary	Scope 1–3 vs targets, variance	Quarterly	ELT/A&R Committee	QA'd internally
Annual Inventory	Full ISO-aligned report	Annual	Council/Public	External verification
Verification Statement	Independent assurance	Biennial	Council/Public	Verification report
Disclosure Note	Change log + method bridge	Annual	Transparency	Required for MRV compliance

6. Verification Cycle

Verification occurs biennially under ISO 14064-3:2019. Key steps include:

1. Preparation – Inventory Owner compiles verification package (data, EF register, QA logs).
2. Desktop Review – Verifier checks boundary, completeness, and data reliability.
3. Sampling & Trace-back – Independent audit of selected data sources.
4. Site Review – Optional verification of key facilities (landfills, WWTP).
5. Findings & Corrective Actions – Addressed before statement issuance.
6. Verification Statement – Published with assurance level (limited or reasonable).

7. Data Management and Documentation

All datasets, calculations, and verification evidence are retained in a central repository (e.g., SharePoint or an emissions specific software). Metadata includes dataset name, source, steward, EF vintage, QA status, and sign-off date. Retention is at least 7 years.

8. Change and Recalculation Policy

Trigger: Structural or methodological changes shifting total emissions by ≥5%. Action: Restate base year and affected years; publish bridging table showing activity vs method effects. Governance: SRO and Audit & Risk approval required.

9. Verification Materiality Thresholds

The following thresholds indicate when a recalculation of the base year may be required.

Level	Threshold	Example
Organisation	±5% of total emissions	Boundary or EF change
Category	±10% within category	Updated supplier EF for Capex
Data Point	±20% variance	Fuel vs invoice discrepancy

10. Uncertainty and Confidence Ratings

Scope	Typical Uncertainty (±%)	Confidence Level
Scope 1	10–20%	High
Scope 2	<5%	Very High
Scope 3 (spend-based)	30–50%	Low–Medium
Scope 3 (actuals)	10–15%	High

Appendix I: Emissions Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

A comprehensive internal framework aligned to ISO 14064-1 and the GHG Protocol; it covers all organisational operations under GDC's operational control, including GHL. Baseline: FY 23/24 inventory.

1. Purpose & Scope

To accurately and effectively track emissions reductions and the effectiveness of the Emissions Reduction Plan, we recommend adopting a Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework.

M&E uses the GHG emissions data to determine whether the actions and systems in the Emissions Reduction Plan are effectively reducing emissions and identifies opportunities for improvements to the plan as time goes on.

Ongoing evaluation of emissions reduction performance and overall plan effectiveness is critical to maximise the impact of investments and ensure value for money. We suggest implementing an annual review of performance in step with budget reviews. This ensures that the M&E plan is used to evaluate the ERP and adjust actions and budget allocations in a timely manner.

2. Proposed Implementation Roadmap

Phase	Milestones	Owner	Due
0–3 months	Confirm KPIs & targets; lock FY24 baselines; assign Data Stewards; data calendar; dashboard v1; QA/QC checklist; recalculation policy	Inventory Owner	Within 90 days
3–6 months	Supplier EF substitution pilot for top 3 Opex/Capex categories; landfill model sensitivity configured; WWTP factor review plan	Procurement & Ops	By 6 months
6–12 months	External ISO alignment check; dashboard v2 with confidence bands; first annual cycle completed	Inventory Owner	By 12 months

3. Governance, Roles & RACI

Accountabilities and delivery roles are explicit to ensure integrity and on-time reporting. These are shown in the table below.

Function/Task	CEO	Inventory Owner (Climate Change)	Finance	Māori Partnerships	Data Steward (by source)	External Reviewer
Targets & strategy	A	R	C	C	I	I
Inventory method & consolidation	C	A/R	C	C	I	C
Monthly/Quarterly data collection	I	C	C	I	R	I
QA/QC & reconciliations	C	A/R	R	C	I	C
Annual inventory publication	A	R	C	C	I	C
Dashboard & variance analysis	C	A/R	R	I	C	I
Baseline recalculation decisions	A	R	C	C	I	C

R – Responsible The person (or people) who actually *do the work*. They carry out the task or produce the deliverable.

A – Accountable The *owner* of the result — the one ultimately answerable for ensuring the task is completed correctly and on time.

C – Consulted People whose input is *sought before and during* the task. They provide expertise, advice, or approvals.

I – Informed People who must be *kept up to date* on progress or results, but don't directly contribute to the work.

4. KPI Hierarchy (Outcome & Driver KPIs)

Proposed Outcome KPIs (reported annually at minimum; tracked quarterly against glidepath):

KPI	Definition / Formula	Boundary	FY19 Baseline	Target	Frequency	Owner	Notes
Gross emissions (tCO_2e)	Sum Category 1–6	GDC + GHL under operational control	36,426		Annual	Inventory Owner	
Net emissions (tCO_2e)	Gross + LULUCF	As above	36,433		Annual	Inventory Owner	LULUCF reported separately
Scope 1 (tCO_2e)	Direct emissions (Category 1)	As above	14,476		Annual	Inventory Owner	Landfills, WWTP, fuels, refrigerants
Scope 2 (tCO_2e)	Purchased electricity (market-based)	As above	857		Annual/Quarterly	Finance/Facilities	Track kWh monthly
Scope 3 (tCO_2e)	All indirect not in S1–S2 (Cat 3–6)	As above	21,092		Annual	Inventory Owner	
Sequestration (tCO_2e)	LULUCF removals	As above	−3,433		Annual	Inventory Owner	Report separately; do not net off in gross

Proposed Driver KPIs (focus on material sources; tracked at least quarterly, some monthly):

Source	KPI / Unit	Definition / Formula	FY19 Baseline (tCO_2e)	2035 Target	2050 Target	Data Source	Frequency	Owner	Notes
Paokahu Landfill	Fugitive CH_4 → tCO_2e	IPCC FOD model; contractor tonnages & decay params	12,250	772	400	Contractor + model	Quarterly/Annual	Solid Waste	Include sensitivity band
Waiapu Landfill	Fugitive CH_4 → tCO_2e	As above	1,044	151	25	Contractor + model	Quarterly/Annual	Solid Waste	
Wastewater (WWTP)	Process N_2O/CH_4 tCO_2e	Flows × MfE default factor (until refined)	790	632	443	Operations + EF	Quarterly/Annual	Wastewater	Review factors post & calc methodology
Capital goods	tCO_2e	Capex spend × EF set	15,493	9296	1,487	Finance GL + EF	Quarterly/Annual	Procurement	Prioritise high $/EF categories
Purchased goods & services	tCO_2e	Opex spend × EF set	4,424	2654.58	425	Finance GL + EF	Quarterly/Annual	Procurement	Move to supplier/product EF where feasible
Electricity	kWh and tCO_2e	Invoice kWh; market-based EF	857	549	0	Supplier statements	Monthly kWh / Quarterly tCO_2e	Facilities	Add intensity: kWh per m²/service
Fleet fuel	Litres; tCO_2e	Fuel litres × EF	313	63	0	Fuel invoices	Monthly	Assets/Facilities	Track litres per 1,000 km
GoBus operations	tCO_2e	Supplier fuel × EF	138	69	0	Supplier	Quarterly	Transport	Scope 3 (contracted service)

5. Data Architecture & Collection Plan

Canonical data dictionary template (to be implemented in the emissions monitoring system/workbook/software):

Source	Activity Data (Unit)	System / File	EF & Source (year)	Consolidation	Steward	Frequency	QA/QC Checks
Electricity	kWh	Supplier invoice/export directly from web	Market-based EF (MfE 2024)	Operational control	Facilities	Monthly	Reconcile to invoice; trend vs season
Fleet fuels	Litres by fuel	Fuel statements/ export directly from web	Liquid fuels EF (MfE 2024)	Operational control	Assets/Facilities	Monthly	Litres vs odometer; conversion check
Wastewater	ML flow; process params	Ops logs/SCADA data	MfE default factors	Operational control	Wastewater	Monthly/Quarterly	Flow plausibility; factor review
Landfills (Paokahu/Waiapu)	Tonnage; composition; age	Contractor/model inputs	IPCC FOD; MfE defaults	Operational control	Solid Waste	Quarterly/Annual	Model reruns; sensitivity
Procurement – Capex	$ by category (GL)	Finance ERP export	Spend-based EF set (Thinkstep/ Toitū)	Operational control	Procurement	Quarterly	Mapping rules; outlier scan
Procurement – Opex	$ by category (GL)	Finance ERP export	Spend-based EF set	Operational control	Procurement	Quarterly	Category review; supplier EF substitution
Refrigerants	kg by gas; GWP	Asset register; service logs	GWP AR5/AR6 as adopted	Operational control	Facilities	Annual	Leak %; top-up evidence
Travel & Accom	km; nights; $	Corporate Traveler; Finance	Mode-specific EF	Operational control	Finance	Quarterly	Mode split; duplicate removal
Contracted services (GoBus)	Litres; km	Supplier report	Diesel EF (MfE 2024)	Scope 3 – upstream	Transport	Quarterly	Supplier confirmation
LULUCF	tCO_2e	Forestry/land mgmt. records	MfE LULUCF methods	Operational control	Sustainability	Annual	Consistency with inventory

6. Quality Assurance & Control (QA/QC)

Controls and checks applied at collection, calculation, and reporting stages:

Stage	Control / Check	Owner	Evidence	Frequency
Collection	Source-of-truth register & data calendar	Inventory Owner	Register; calendar invites	Annual setup; monthly updates
Collection	Two-person review for GL mapping rules	Finance & Inventory	Signed mapping matrix	Quarterly
Calculation	Unit conversions & EF provenance log	Inventory Owner	EF register; change log	Quarterly
Calculation	Trend & variance analysis vs drivers	Inventory Owner	Variance notes	Monthly/Quarterly
Calculation	Reperform landfill FOD with sensitivity	Solid Waste	Model run files	Annual
Reporting	Reconciliation to supplier statements	Finance	Reconciliation sheet	Quarterly/Annual
Reporting	Management sign-off (CEO)	CEO	Sign-off memo	Annual
Assurance	External ISO alignment check	External reviewer	Assurance letter	Biennial

7. Monitoring Cadence & Reporting Products

Product	Audience	Content	Owner	Schedule	Channel
Operational dashboard	Managers & Stewards	Outcome & Driver KPIs; trend; confidence bands	Inventory Owner	Monthly	Power BI / SharePoint
Quarterly performance	TRW; Finance; A&R	Variance vs glidepath; actions; risks	Inventory Owner	Quarterly	PDF pack
Annual GHG Inventory	Council; Public	ISO-aligned report; figures & tables	Inventory Owner	Annual	Website + Council papers
Action traffic-light	Project owners	Top measures progress & blockers	Sustainability	Quarterly	Dashboard page

8. Evaluation Approach

Evaluation Type	Key Questions	Methods	Data Required	Timing	Owner
Annual effectiveness	Did actions change driver KPIs at reasonable cost?	Contribution analysis; before-after; counterfactual proxy	Driver KPIs; cost; operational metrics	Annual	Inventory Owner
Method evaluation	Are EF/boundaries appropriate; need recalculation?	Method review vs standards; sensitivity	EF register; boundary log	Annual	Inventory Owner
Mid-term (e.g., 2030)	Are we on track to interim targets?	Independent review; scenario refresh	All KPIs; plan milestones	Mid-term	External reviewer
After-action (shock events)	How did shocks alter Scope 3 & drivers?	Rapid evaluation; hot-spotting	GL by category; supplier data	As needed	Inventory Owner

9. Decision Rules & Adaptive Management

Area	Trigger Threshold	Action	Escalation	Owner
Landfill (Paokahu)	>10% above glidepath for 2 consecutive years	Accelerate gas capture/flaring; budget step-up	TRW paper; Council if capex	Solid Waste
Wastewater	No intensity improvement 12 months post-upgrade	Process audit; factor review; ops optimisation	TRW	Wastewater
Procurement – Capex/Opex	>15% over plan by category	Supplier engagement; refine EF (supplier/product)	TRW	Procurement
Electricity	Monthly kWh variance >20% vs weather-normalised trend	Energy audit; controls check	Facilities Manager	Facilities
GHL Scope 1	Quarterly variance >10% vs glidepath	Investigate drivers; corrective plan	GHL Board liaison	GHL Lead

Baseline recalculation policy: Recalculate prior-year totals when structural/consolidation or EF/method changes shift the historical figure by ≥5%. Document changes and maintain a transparent change log.

10. Risk Register (Emissions-Data Risks & Mitigations)

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigation	Owner
Data gaps in leased assets / crematorium process	Medium	High	Gap-closure plan; steward assignment; shadow KPIs	Facilities / Climate Change
Spend-based EF uncertainty (Scope 3)	High	Medium	Prioritise supplier/product EF; add confidence bands	Procurement
Comparability across years	Medium	Medium	Change control & recalculation policy; annotate reports	Inventory Owner
Supplier data quality (GHL, contractors)	Medium	Medium	MoUs on data provision; sampling vs independent sources	Finance / Contract owners
Manual handling errors	Medium	Medium	Automate extracts; validations; peer review	Inventory Owner

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THINK GLOBALLY : ACT LOCALLY

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

26-129

Title: **26-129 Resource Consenting Statutory Performance**

Section: Resource Consents

Prepared by: Awhina White - Consents Manager

Meeting Date: Thursday 11 June 2026

Legal: No	Financial: No	Significance: **Low**

Report to Sustainable Tairāwhiti for information

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to update Gisborne District Council (Council) on the performance and ongoing improvement of the Resource Consents function, including progress with the Resource Consents Continuous Improvement Programme. It includes:

- Key achievements to date;
- Key initiatives currently underway to improve service delivery, operational performance, customer experience, financial sustainability, and regulatory effectiveness across the Resource Consents function, and
- The strategic direction of future improvement work.

The report also provides an update on the Resource Consents section's statutory performance for the period 01 February 2026 to 30 April 2026. This information is summarised in Attachment 1.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

The Resource Consents function has made significant progress through its Continuous Improvement Programme. The programme has focused on improving statutory performance, financial management, customer experience, technical consistency, quality assurance, staff capability, iwi and hapū engagement, and readiness for national resource management reform.

Year-to-date statutory performance is currently 97%, with 405 resource consents granted to 30 April 2026. This reflects a sustained improvement in workflow management, accountability, reporting, staff capability, and customer communication.

Financial performance has also improved. Cost recovery has increased from approximately 28% in 2024 to around 56% over the last 12 months. Debtor recovery timeframes have reduced to approximately 32 days, compared with historical averages of more than 90 days over the previous five years.

The next phase of improvement will focus on embedding consistent systems, strengthening technical and legal defensibility, improving forestry consenting pathways, developing a more proactive adaptive consenting model, and preparing the function for national resource management reform.

While performance trends are positive, the consenting environment remains complex. Key risks relate to legislative reform, national direction changes, forestry regulation, natural hazards, financial sustainability, workforce capability, customer expectations, and the need to maintain public confidence in Council's regulatory decision-making.

RECOMMENDATIONS - NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That the Sustainable Tairawhiti /Toitū Tairāwhiti:

1. **Notes the contents of this report.**
2. **Notes the schedule of resource consents granted under delegated authority.**

Authorised by:

Jocelyne Allen - Director Sustainable Futures

Keywords: Resource Consents Continuous Improvement Programme, Quarterly Report,

BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. Since March 2023, the Resource Consents team has been implementing a comprehensive Continuous Improvement Programme focused on:
   - Improving statutory performance and timeliness;
   - Improving cost recovery and financial management;
   - Improving customer and stakeholder confidence in Council's consenting functions;
   - Strengthening technical consistency and quality assurance;
   - Supporting staff capability, retention, and wellbeing;
   - Improving relationships with iwi, hapū, industry, and practitioners; and
   - Preparing the organisation for future resource management reform and digital transformation.
2. The programme of work is broad and includes operational, strategic, technological, cultural, financial, and relationship management initiatives. Significant progress has been achieved across all workstreams, with many projects now embedded into business-as-usual operations.
3. The programme has now moved from an establishment phase into an embedding and maturity phase. Earlier work focused on stabilising core systems, improving statutory performance, strengthening financial oversight, and creating clearer operating procedures. The next phase will focus on consistency, quality assurance, digital enablement, customer experience, reform readiness, and stronger integration across Council.
4. Statutory performance has been a key focus area of the Resource Consents Continuous Improvement Programme. Timely processing of resource consents is critical to maintaining public confidence in Council's regulatory functions and ensuring Council meets its obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).
5. Timeliness must also be balanced with robust assessment, cultural input, technical review, natural hazard considerations, environmental outcomes, and legally defensible decision-making. The improvement programme is therefore not solely focused on speed. It is focused on building a consenting function that is efficient, consistent, transparent, proportionate, and resilient.
6. It also supports economic activity and development by removing consenting bottlenecks and reducing unnecessary costs for applicants.
7. Attachment 1 shows resource consent decisions made by Council officers. They relate to activities having less than minor adverse effects on the environment or having minor effects where affected parties have agreed to the activity. In accordance with sections 104 to 108 of the RMA, and under delegated authority, Gisborne District Council has granted these consents.
8. The exercise of delegations under the RMA is reported for member information.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

Continuous Improvement Project

9. This report focuses on the key continuous improvement initiatives and projects planned for delivery over the next 12 months. A summary of completed improvement projects and workstreams is attached as Attachment 2. Key project achievements to date and goals for 2026 (and beyond) are as follows:

Key achievements to date
Development of a resource consents standard operating procedures manual
Implementation of online decision reporting systems
Establishment of quality assurance and contractor performance frameworks, including the development of a pricing guideline for consent types
Improved cost recovery systems, with the team averaging a cost recovery rate of 56.5%
Reduction in average debtor recovery timeframes over the past 12 months to approximately 32 days, compared with historical averages of more than 90 days over the previous five years
Establishment of regular engagement forums with industry and practitioners
Implementation of streamlined forestry consenting processes and guidance systems
Establishment of Māori responsiveness initiatives and engagement frameworks, including pathways for recognising and recovering costs for iwi and hapū technical input where required to support consent assessment.
Goals for 2026 and beyond
Continuing to refine systems and processes
Improving consistency in statutory and financial performance
Increasing integration across Council
Improving the efficiency, quality, and predictability of consent processing
Leveraging digital tools and artificial intelligence
Strengthening customer and stakeholder relationships
Continuing to improve forestry consenting pathways
Scoping and assessing the development of an adaptive consenting approach
Preparing for future national resource management reforms.

Table 1: Continuous Improvement Project - Achievements to date and goals for 2026 and beyond.

10. The programme continues to evolve in response to changing legislative direction, increasing community expectations, technological opportunities, organisational learning, and the ongoing need to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and financial sustainability of Council's consenting functions.

11. The improvement programme is intended to improve timeliness, consistency and customer experience while preserving Council's independence as regulator and maintaining robust environmental, cultural, and legal assessment.

Statutory Performance

12. Timely processing of resource consents is critical to maintaining public confidence in Council's regulatory functions, supporting appropriate development, reducing unnecessary delay, and ensuring Council meets applicable statutory timeframes under the RMA.

13. The Resource Consents Team has continued to demonstrate strong statutory performance throughout the 2025/2026 financial year despite high workloads, ongoing recovery-related pressures, increasing application complexity, and significant national direction change associated with resource management reform.

14. Over the last three months to the end of April 2026, the Resource Consents team has maintained consistently high statutory processing performance achieving strong compliance against statutory timeframes. The overall year-to-date statutory performance result currently sits at 97% of consent applications processed within statutory timeframes, with a total of 405 resource consents granted up to 30 April 2026.

	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
PLANNING	100%	100%	100%
REGIONAL	93%	100%	100%
MONTHLY TOTAL	93%	100%	100%
Y.T.D	96%	97%	97%
NO. CONSENTS GRANTED YTD	180	207	*405

Table 2: Resource Consents performance February to April 2026

15. These results reflect the significant operational improvements implemented through the Continuous Improvement Programme and the strong organisational focus on improving timeliness, accountability, workflow management, and customer communication.

16. Importantly, the team has continued to maintain high statutory performance while balancing the need for robust environmental assessment, cultural engagement, technical review, and legally defensible decision-making processes.

17. Maintaining this performance will require continued focus. The consenting environment is becoming more complex due to national reform, natural hazard risk, infrastructure pressures, freshwater requirements, forestry regulation, and increasing expectations from applicants, iwi, hapū, industry and the wider community.

18. While current performance trends are positive, the Resource Consents team recognises the need for continued improvement to respond to future growth pressures, increasing application complexity, and anticipated reform of the resource management system. Initiatives are underway, including the Adaptive Consenting Project, which will identify opportunities to improve efficiency, consistency, customer experience, and statutory performance across the consenting system.

Cost Recovery and Financial Performance

19. Improving the financial sustainability and performance of the Resource Consents function continues to be a key focus of the Continuous Improvement Programme. To strengthen financial management and oversight, the team has recently appointed a dedicated Resource Consents Financial Accountant, providing increased reporting, debtor management support, and financial advice across consenting activities.

20. The Consents Team has historically faced a range of financial challenges, including inconsistent cost recovery practices, high historical debt, extended debtor recovery timeframes, limited financial reporting visibility, consequential discounting associated with statutory non-performance, and cost pressures associated with complex applications and specialist technical inputs.

21. The consenting activity is currently funded through a combination of user-pays revenue and rates funding, with approximately 44% of the activity recovered directly from applicants and 56% funded through rates. A key objective of the Continuous Improvement Programme is to progressively increase the level of cost recovery, reduce reliance on rates and ensure that those who generate demand for the service contribute more directly to its cost.

22. Cost recovery improvements will continue to be balanced against fairness, transparency, statutory obligations, and customer experience. The objective is not simply to increase charges, but to ensure time is recorded accurately, costs are explained clearly, invoices are issued promptly, and applicants have confidence that charges are reasonable, transparent, and linked to the work required.

23. A long-term target of 70% cost recovery has been set for the consenting function. While this target has not yet been achieved, performance has significantly improved, increasing from approximately 28% in 2024 to around 56% over the last 12 months.

24. Several initiatives have been implemented to improve cost recovery performance and strengthen financial oversight. These include:
    - Implementation of improved time recording and reporting systems;
    - Improved workload prioritisation and allocation processes;
    - Review and update of fees and charges;
    - Introduction of interim invoicing processes;
    - Implementation of discount approval controls;
    - Strengthening contractor invoicing and reporting requirements;
    - Improved breakdown and transparency of consent charges;
    - Increased financial oversight and monthly accountant meetings; and
    - Establishing dashboards and reporting tools to better monitor recovery performance and identify improvement opportunities.

25. Broader financial performance has also improved with historical debt reducing substantially through strengthened debt recovery processes, improved invoicing practices, and greater financial oversight.

26. Debtor recovery timeframes have improved through earlier invoicing, interim charging processes, improved monitoring of aged receivables, and clearer communication with applicants regarding consent-related costs and expectations. These changes have improved cash flow management and financial transparency.

27. Improved statutory performance and workflow management has reduced consequential discounting associated with statutory non-compliance. This has reduced Council's exposure to financial penalties while also improving customer confidence and organisational accountability.

28. The current approach seeks to balance financial sustainability with the delivery of an effective, customer-focused, and legally robust consenting service. Ongoing improvement work will continue to focus on improving efficiency and productivity, strengthening financial systems, and ensuring that the consenting activity becomes progressively more financially sustainable over time.

Forestry Consents

29. In July 2025, a review of the Consents Team's forestry consenting practices was undertaken in response to ongoing concerns raised by the forestry industry regarding the timeliness, complexity, and consistency of the consenting process. The review included engagement with forestry companies, contractors, council staff, and technical specialists across legal, forestry, land management, and science disciplines. The review identified a number of improvement opportunities across Council's forestry consenting framework, with implementation of those actions progressively underway since July 2025.

30. The review confirmed that forestry consenting in Te Tairāwhiti operates within an increasingly complex and high-risk environment, particularly following Cyclone Gabrielle, and the heightened regional and national scrutiny. It highlighted the need for a more legally robust, technically informed, and consistent consenting approach that reflects environmental, social, and reputational risks.

31. Since completion of the review, improvements have progressed across key parts of the consenting process. These include strengthening the application of section 88 of the RMA to improve the quality and completeness of applications at lodgement, improving consistency in forestry consent decision-making, and progressing of forestry-specific technical templates, reporting frameworks, and guidance material. A review of council's forestry technical advisory arrangements is also underway to improve the consistency, coordination, and accountability of technical advice, including clearer expectations around scope, reporting standards, and conflict of interest management.

32. Engagement with the forestry sector has improved communications, enabled earlier identification and resolution of issues, and provided greater clarity around Council's expectations, consenting pathways, operational challenges, and emerging risks within the forestry sector. Meetings have also created opportunities for collaborative discussion around continuous improvement initiatives, operational planning, and future regulatory changes impacting the forestry industry.

33. Capability within forestry consenting has strengthened through targeted training over the past 12 months, including national direction, notification, forestry operations, technical assessment processes, and decision writing. Cross-council collaboration has also improved, with stronger integration across Consents, Compliance, Science, Integrated Catchments and Legal teams.

34. Council has also progressed the rollout of the Suitably Qualified and Experienced Practitioner (SQEP) framework for forestry activities. The SQEP process has been developed to improve confidence in forestry management plans, technical assessments, and post-construction verification processes.

35. The review also identified the need for a more adaptive and coordinated forestry consenting model that better integrates technical expertise, risk assessment, catchment-level thinking, and early engagement with applicants. In response, work has commenced on the development of a Forestry Consenting Strategy that will provide a clear organisational framework, strengthen organisational resilience, improve consistency in decision-making, and support a more strategic and risk-based approach to managing forestry activities across Te Tairāwhiti.

Adaptive Consenting Approach.

36. The team is exploring the development of a more adaptive consenting model to improve how Council manages consenting pathways.

37. Adaptive consenting does not mean pre-determining applications or reducing Council's statutory independence. It means improving the quality of proposals before lodgement, identifying key issues earlier, tailoring information requirements to the scale, complexity, and risk of a proposal, and supporting more efficient and legally robust decision-making.

38. The current consenting system is largely reactive, with most effort commencing once an application is formally lodged. This can result in avoidable delays, incomplete applications, repeated information requests, rework, uncertainty for applicants, and pressure on staff and technical specialists. A more adaptive model would place greater emphasis on early engagement, clearer expectations, better issue identification, and more proportionate processing pathways.

39. This approach aims to create a more agile, transparent, and consistent consenting process by front-loading effort, improving internal coordination, reducing duplication, and strengthening communication with applicants before and during the formal consent process. It is not intended to reduce regulatory standards or environmental protections. Rather, it is intended to support applicants to better understand and meet those standards.

40. The model aligns with emerging national direction and increasing expectations for councils to support appropriate development, infrastructure delivery, and economic activity, while continuing to uphold environmental, cultural and community outcomes.

41. As part of this work, the team is reviewing existing systems, templates, workflows, and processes to identify opportunities to improve efficiency, consistency, and customer experience. This includes considering how Council can better use application tracking, standard operating procedures, triage processes, internal referral pathways, reporting templates, technical review processes, condition-setting practices, and quality assurance checks.

42. The focus is on reducing duplication, improving transparency, supporting better workflow management, and enabling staff to focus their time on technical assessment, relationship management, problem-solving and robust statutory decision-making.

43. The project is currently in the discovery and development phase. Work undertaken to date includes:
    - analysis of current consenting pathways and workflow systems;
    - review of current application lodgement, triage, and allocation processes;
    - comparison with adaptive and partnership consenting models used by other councils;
    - development of strategic pathway mapping and process analysis;
    - investigation into key account management approaches;
    - consideration of enhanced pre-application processes and developer partnership forums;
    - review of internal referral processes and technical input pathways;
    - assessment of opportunities to improve templates, guidance material and standard operating procedures;
    - identification of improvements to reporting, tracking and workflow visibility;
    - consideration of how quality assurance can be embedded at key stages of the consent process; and
    - identification of process improvements that could reduce avoidable delay, rework, and duplication.
44. Staff are exploring how the model could be tailored to reflect the scale, complexity, risk, and strategic importance of a proposal. This includes considering more structured engagement approaches for major developments, while maintaining fairness, equity, and transparency across the wider consenting system.
45. The model is not intended to create preferential pathways for particular applicants. Any differentiated approach would need to be transparent, risk-based, proportionate, and available on clear criteria. Implementation will need to preserve Council's independence as regulator, maintain procedural fairness, avoid any perception of preferential treatment, and operate within the statutory framework of the Resource Management Act 1991 and any future replacement legislation.
46. The programme remains in its early stages, with further design work planned throughout 2026. The next phase will focus on confirming priority process improvements, clarifying governance and ownership, testing proposed workflow changes, and ensuring any new approach is supported by documented procedures, staff training, quality assurance and clear reporting.

Resource Management Reform Project

47. Council continues to monitor and prepare for the ongoing reform of the resource management system, including the proposed Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill, and the implementation of new and amended national direction instruments under the RMA. While the reform programme at a national level continues to evolve, While the reform programme at a national level continues to evolve, the consenting environment is already becoming increasingly complex, with greater emphasis being placed on natural hazard risk management, freshwater outcomes, climate resilience, infrastructure delivery, housing supply, and environmental protection. These changes are already influencing how Council undertakes resource consenting and broader regulatory functions.

48. Over the past 12 months, the Consents Team has continued to adapt internal systems, processes, and decision-making frameworks to align with emerging national direction and legislative change. This has included ongoing training and capability development for planners, regular reviews of Environment Court decisions and legal updates, and stronger integration across Consents, Policy, Science, Compliance and Legal teams to ensure consistent interpretation and application of national policy.

49. Council is also refining its consenting processes to ensure they remain fit-for-purpose within a changing regulatory environment. This includes strengthening risk-based assessment approaches, improving technical integration into decision-making, and progressing more adaptive consenting pathways that better respond to increasingly complex land use and natural hazard issues. Work currently underway through the Continuous Improvement Programme and the Forestry Consenting Strategy is expected to improve readiness for future reform.

50. While there remains uncertainty regarding the timing, scope, transitional arrangements and operational implications of legislative change, the focus is on building organisational resilience, improving consistency in decision-making, and ensuring that core consenting systems and practices are sufficiently adaptable to respond to future national direction as it is introduced.

Summary

51. Significant progress has been achieved across statutory performance, financial management, forestry consenting, customer service, relationship management, systems improvement, and organisational capability. The Team has also established a strong foundation for Council to respond proactively to future legislative reform, increasing development pressures, changing community expectations, and emerging technology opportunities. The next phase is less about establishing new initiatives and more about embedding disciplined systems, clear ownership, quality assurance, performance reporting, and consistent decision-making across the consenting lifecycle.

52. The work reflects a deliberate organisational shift toward a more modern, integrated, customer-focused, and financially sustainable consenting model, while continuing to maintain robust environmental oversight, cultural responsiveness, and legally defensible decision-making practices. It also recognises that continuous improvement is not a one-off initiative, but an ongoing commitment to refining how Council delivers regulatory services to the community.

53. While substantial progress has already been made, key workstreams remain in development. Over the next 12 months, the focus will be on further improving statutory and financial performance, progressing the adaptive consenting model, improving forestry consenting pathways, strengthening organisational integration, and using digital tools and artificial intelligence to improve efficiency and customer experience.

54. The Resource Consents team remains committed to delivering a consenting function that is efficient, effective, proportionate, legally robust, and responsive to the current and future needs of Te Tairāwhiti. Continued investment in systems, people, relationships, and innovation will ensure Council is well positioned to manage future growth, environmental challenges, and the evolving national resource management framework.

ASSESSMENT of SIGNIFICANCE - AROTAKENGA o NGĀ HIRANGA

Consideration of consistency with and impact on the Regional Land Transport Plan and its implementation
Overall Process: **Low** Significance

Impacts on Council's delivery of its Financial Strategy and Long Term Plan
Overall Process: **Low** Significance

Inconsistency with Council's current strategy and policy
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on all or a large part of the Gisborne district
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The effects on individuals or specific communities
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue
Overall Process: **Low** Significance
This Report: **Low** Significance

55. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

TREATY COMPASS ANALYSIS

Kāwanatanga

56. The RMA requires Council to take into account the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi when making resource consent decisions. Over the past two years, relationships between Council's resource consenting team and iwi and hapū have strengthened significantly. This has been achieved through the development and implementation of improved processes that enable more efficient and meaningful input from iwi and hapū within the consenting process.

57. In addition, recognition of iwi and hapū representatives as holders of mātauranga, cultural expertise and local knowledge relevant to resource consent processes, alongside the introduction of cost recovery mechanisms, has further supported this progress. These changes have enabled Council to appropriately value and empower the role of iwi and hapū, recognising their contributions as technical experts within the regulatory framework.

Rangatiratanga

58. Improved relationship management with iwi and hapū, alongside the active implementation of improvements identified through the review, supports the exercise of rangatiratanga. By strengthening these partnerships and better understanding and responding to iwi and hapū interests, aspirations and environmental values, Council enables greater influence and participation in decision-making, ultimately contributing to improved environmental outcomes.

Oritetanga

59. Engagement throughout the consenting process enables Council to identify and address issues that directly affect tangata whenua. Māori make up more than half of the population in our region, and this context is important in shaping our approach. Historical and ongoing legal barriers to land development, alongside the challenges associated with land often being of lower capability or more vulnerable classifications, mean that equity remains a key consideration.

60. This is particularly important where consent processes affect Māori land, papakāinga, infrastructure, access to development opportunities, cultural values, freshwater, coastal environments, wāhi tapu or other sites and areas of significance.

61. This reinforces the need for a consenting approach that is responsive, enabling, and mindful of these factors to support fair and equitable outcomes.

Whakapono

62. Engagement with iwi and hapū is a fundamental component of the resource consenting process. It provides a meaningful opportunity for tikanga, local expertise, mātauranga, cultural values and environmental knowledge, and mātauranga to be recognised and incorporated into decision-making. This ensures that cultural values and perspectives are appropriately considered alongside other technical and environmental assessments.

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

63. Tangata whenua are provided with opportunities to input into resource consent processes where cultural interests, statutory acknowledgements, sites or areas of significance, effects on Māori values, or other relevant matters are identified. The Resource Consents Team has developed strong working relationships with iwi and hapū representatives across Te Tairāwhiti, engaging with them regularly as part of day-to-day consenting activities. These relationships support more effective collaboration and ensure that cultural perspectives and values are appropriately considered throughout the process and reflected in resource consent decisions. These improvements support more meaningful participation by tangata whenua while maintaining Council's statutory responsibilities as the consent authority.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

64. This is an information report, and no specific community engagement has been undertaken for the purpose of preparing it.

65. Engagement on the revision or review of resource consent conditions occurs between Council and the relevant consent holder or applicant, and where appropriate, may also involve affected parties, iwi, hapū, technical specialists or industry representatives.

CLIMATE CHANGE – Impacts / Implications - NGĀ REREKĒTANGA ĀHUARANGI – ngā whakaaweawe / ngā ritenga

66. Climate change projections for Te Tairāwhiti indicate higher temperatures, longer dry periods, more frequent heatwaves, and increasingly severe short-duration rainfall events[5]. These changes will heighten existing erosion and flooding hazards, particularly on the region's steep, soft-rock hill country.

67. This is likely to increase pressure on land use controls, infrastructure resilience, and catchment management, requiring more proactive and risk-based planning and consenting responses from Council.

68. For the Resource Consents function, this increases the importance of robust natural hazard information, consistent technical advice, climate-informed assessment, and clear links between consent conditions, monitoring, and long-term risk management.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

69. There are no specific financial considerations in this report. Funding for the consenting work programme has been accounted for and allocated through the **2024-2027 Three Year Plan**.

Legal

70. This report is provided for information and does not seek a decision that creates new legal obligations. The Resource Consents function operates within the statutory framework of the RMA, including statutory processing timeframes, notification requirements, decision-making obligations and delegation requirements. Legal advice is sought as required on complex applications, process matters, forestry consenting, reform implications and matters of legal risk.

71. Particular areas of legal sensitivity include statutory timeframes, notification decisions, information requirements under section 88 of the RMA, natural hazard risk assessment, forestry consenting, cost recovery, use of delegations, and any future use of AI-supported tools. Legal advice will continue to be sought where applications or process matters involve elevated risk, uncertainty, or precedent-setting implications.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

72. The matters in this report align with Council's strategic direction for effective, efficient, and financially sustainable regulatory services. The continuous improvement programme supports implementation of Council's statutory functions under the Resource Management Act 1991, improves customer experience, strengthens cost recovery, and supports readiness for national resource management reform. The report is for information and does not seek a decision that is inconsistent with Council's current strategies, policies, plans, or previous decisions.

73. The work also supports a more integrated approach across consenting, compliance, monitoring, science, policy, and strategic planning functions, which will be increasingly important as national resource management reform progresses.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

74. This report is for information and does not seek a decision that creates new strategic risk. However, the Resource Consents function operates in a complex and changing statutory, environmental, financial, and operational environment. Key risks include the scale and timing of resource management reform, increasing application complexity, ongoing financial sustainability, workforce capability and capacity, community and industry expectations, and the need to maintain legally robust and environmentally sound decision-making. These risks are being actively managed through the continuous improvement programme, strengthened financial oversight, quality assurance processes, cross-Council integration, legal input where required, and ongoing monitoring of national reform.

Resource Management Reform and National Direction

75. The resource management system is currently undergoing significant legislative and national direction reform. The Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill, together with ongoing amendments to national direction instruments and environmental standards, are expected to significantly reshape the regulatory framework within which Council undertakes consenting, compliance, monitoring, and environmental management functions if passed into law.

76. Uncertainty remains around the scope, timeframes, transitional arrangements, and operational implications of the reforms. The scale of change presents a number of strategic and operational risks for the consents team, including:
    - Increased complexity and uncertainty during transition periods;
    - The need to redesign internal systems, processes, templates, delegations, and guidance material;
    - Increased staff training and capability requirements;
    - Potential inconsistency in interpretation and implementation during legislative transition;
    - Increased customer and stakeholder expectations regarding enabling development outcomes;
    - Potential resourcing pressures associated with implementation of new national direction;
    - Risks associated with integrating reforms across consenting, compliance, policy, science, Engineering, and legal functions; and
    - The need to rapidly adapt to changing statutory and regulatory requirements.

77. Many consent risks cannot be managed by the Resource Consents team alone. Effective consenting increasingly depends on timely and coordinated input from Science, Engineering, Compliance, Strategic Planning, Legal, Building, Climate Change, Lifelines, iwi and hapū, and external technical specialists.

78. Council staff have provided a submission on the two Resource Management replacement Bills, with more detail in **Report 26-10**. Strategic Planning staff will continue to monitor and provide an update to this Council as more information is available.

79. Based on the Bills and supporting material released to date, potential changes relevant to consenting include:

80. **More nationally standardised policy direction and rules and less region-specific rules**, which will be reflected in each region's Natural Environment Plan (NEP) and Land Use Plan (LUP). There is some flexibility for region-specific rules to meet local needs, however these customised rules must include a justification report that demonstrates the need for these rules.

81. **Changes to activity categories**, which will reduce from the current 6 activity categories to only 4 categories (Permitted, Restricted Discretionary, Discretionary, Prohibited) in the new system. This change intends to streamline the consenting process, lower the threshold for more permitted (and granted) activities, reduce consenting costs, increase certainty for consent applicants, and overall reduce the number of consents required.

82. **Proposed changes to public and targeted notification** would significantly narrow the circumstances where resource consent applications are publicly notified**.,** would significantly narrow when resource consent applications are publicly notified. Public notification would generally only occur where affected persons cannot reasonably be identified, or where the effects of the activity are considered significant under the proposed Natural Environment Bill (which is intended to regulate forestry activities).

83. Where affected persons can be identified, councils would instead use targeted (limited) notification. Participation in the consenting process would also be more limited, with submission rights focused on parties considered to be materially affected by the proposal. This includes iwi, hapū, and groups with statutory acknowledgements where they are materially affected by the activity.

Forestry Consenting Risks

84. Forestry consenting within Te Tairāwhiti continues to operate within a high-risk environmental, legal, reputational, and political environment, particularly following Cyclone Gabrielle, and ongoing public scrutiny of forestry related effects.

85. The complexity and scale of forestry activities within the region create ongoing risks relating to:
    - Environmental impacts and downstream damage;
    - Public confidence in Council's regulatory role;
    - Legal challenge and judicial review;
    - Consistency and defensibility of decision-making;
    - Technical capability and coordination across disciplines; and
    - Balancing economic development with environmental and community expectations.

86. The Forestry Consenting Review, development of the SQEP framework, improved technical guidance, and work underway on the Forestry Consenting Strategy are intended to mitigate these risks through stronger systems, clearer expectations, improved technical oversight, and more coordinated decision-making processes.

87. Further complexity and risk have also emerged through recent amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry (NES-CF), introduced by the Government as part of broader changes to national direction under the Resource Management Act 1991. The amendments are intended to improve national consistency, reduce compliance costs and uncertainty for forestry operators, remove duplication within the regulatory framework, and focus regulatory oversight on higher-risk forestry activities and environments.

88. The amendments introduce a stronger risk-based approach to forestry regulation, particularly in relation to slash mobilisation and erosion risk management. A significant shift is the move toward greater reliance on site-specific risk assessment, technical judgement, mapped evidence, and targeted management responses for higher-risk areas.

89. While the amendments are intended to improve efficiency and proportionality within the forestry regulatory system, they also create a number of operational, legal, technical, and reputational risks for Council, particularly within the Te Tairāwhiti context where commercial forestry activities occur within highly erosion-prone and environmentally sensitive catchments.

90. Subject to final legal confirmation, amendments to Regulation 6 appear to narrow the circumstances in which councils may rely on more stringent local rules for some forestry matters. This increases the importance of robust, mapped, evidence-based information to support any local regulatory response. This increases the importance of the quality, defensibility, consistency, and accessibility of Council's natural hazard, erosion, and catchment risk information.

91. The replacement of nationally prescriptive slash management rules with a Slash Mobilisation Risk Assessment (SMRA) process also introduces greater reliance on technical assessment and professional judgement. While this approach enables a more proportionate response focused on higher-risk situations, it also increases operational and legal risks if risk assessments are inconsistent, poorly scoped, inadequately reviewed, or unsupported by robust technical information and governance systems. The reforms reinforce the need for:
    - strong technical oversight and consistency in forestry consenting;
    - robust natural hazard and erosion risk information;
    - clear internal guidance and decision-making frameworks;
    - strong quality assurance processes;
    - improved integration across Consents, Science, Compliance, Engineering, and Catchment Management functions; and
    - continued investment in capability, systems, and forestry-specific expertise.

92. The reforms also create ongoing reputational and legal risks for Council given the heightened public scrutiny of forestry activities following Cyclone Gabrielle and continuing community concern regarding slash mobilisation, erosion, infrastructure resilience, and downstream environmental impacts. In this environment, Council decisions relating to forestry activities are likely to continue attracting significant public, political, and legal scrutiny.

93. The changes to the NES-CF further reinforce the importance of the forestry initiatives currently underway within Council, including development of the Forestry Consenting Strategy, implementation of the SQEP framework, strengthening of technical review processes, development of forestry guidance material, and progression of more risk-based and adaptive consenting approaches. These initiatives are intended to ensure that Council remains well positioned to manage increasing regulatory complexity while continuing to support environmentally robust, legally defensible, and proportionate forestry consenting outcomes across Te Tairāwhiti

National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards

94. The National Policy Statement for Natural Hazards 2025 came into force on 15 January 2026. It introduces a risk-based approach for managing natural hazard risks in new development and increases the importance of consistent, defensible natural hazard information in resource consent decision-making.

95. For the Resource Consents function, the key operational risk is whether Council has coordinated, accessible and defensible hazard information available at the point decisions are made.

96. This has direct implications for how Council assesses flood risk, land instability, coastal hazards, climate change effects, mitigation measures, and residual risk. It also reinforces the need for strong integration between Consents, Science, Strategic Planning, Building, Lifelines, Emergency Management, Climate Change and Legal teams.

97. The NPS-NH reinforces the importance of strengthening Council's internal systems, technical capability, and risk-based consenting approaches to ensure natural hazard risks are appropriately identified, assessed, and managed.

Adaptive Consenting and Artificial Intelligence

98. The Adaptive Consenting Programme and exploration of artificial intelligence (AI) tools present significant opportunities to improve efficiency, customer experience, and system responsiveness. However, these initiatives also introduce organisational and operational risks that will require careful management. Potential risks include:
    - Over-reliance on technology or automation;
    - Data quality and governance risks;
    - Privacy and information management considerations;
    - Inconsistency in application of AI-supported tools;
    - Staff capability and change management challenges;
    - Public perception and trust issues;
    - Ensuring continued legal robustness and transparency in decision-making; and
    - Balancing enablement with environmental and regulatory obligations.

99. To mitigate these risks, the adaptive consenting work programme remains in a controlled discovery and development phase. No AI-supported tool should be implemented for operational use until governance, privacy, cybersecurity, legal, quality assurance, staff training and record-keeping requirements have been confirmed. Any future implementation of AI-enabled tools will continue to operate within appropriate governance, legal, privacy, cybersecurity, and quality assurance frameworks, with all statutory decisions remaining with authorised Council officers holding appropriate qualifications, experience, and delegations.

Summary

100. Overall, while the consenting environment remains complex and rapidly evolving, the Continuous Improvement Programme is intended to proactively identify, manage, and mitigate strategic, operational, financial, legal, and reputational risks across Council's consenting functions.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
June–August 2026	Confirm next phase of the Resource Consents Continuous Improvement Programme	Confirm priority workstreams, owners, milestones, and reporting approach.
June–September 2026	Progress Forestry Consenting Strategy	Align forestry consenting practice, technical review, SQEP framework, guidance, and compliance interface.
July–October 2026	Develop adaptive consenting discovery report	Identify preferred model, risks, governance requirements, and implementation pathway.
Ongoing through 2026	Monitor resource management reform and national direction changes	Assess implications for delegations, templates, processes, training, and customer guidance.
Quarterly	Continue reporting on statutory performance, cost recovery, and improvement delivery	Provide transparent performance oversight to Council.

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - FEB MAR APR 2026 COUNCIL REPORT RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED [**26-129.1** - 69 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - Continuos improvement Project Schedule 22 May 2026 [**26-129.2** - 16 pages]

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED – FEBRUARY 2026

LU-2025-112744-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	1/10/2025
TURANGA GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED	DECISION DATE	03/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	268 GREY STREET AWAPUNI	
PROPOSAL	To redevelop the Gisborne Railway Station into offices.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-112846-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	14/03/2025
GORRINGE, GINA MICHELLE	DECISION DATE	04/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	04/02/2051
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	17 DICKSON STREET KAITI	
PROPOSAL	Construction of a retaining wall bordering Kopuawhakapata Stream, a tributary of the Turanganui River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113322-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	16/12/2025
HAWEA, ALEXANDA SCOTT MATHEW	DECISION DATE	04/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	16 MANGAPAPA ROAD MANGAPAPA	
PROPOSAL	To extend the existing main dwelling located at 16 Mangapapa Road, Gisborne.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LB-2026-113338-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - BORE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
EDGAR, JOHN DAVID	DECISION DATE	04/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/01/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	35 POYNTER ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	To install a new bore identified as GPO075 at 35 Poynter road, Te Karaka.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

SG-2025-113275-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	25/11/2025
PRIME SPV LIMITED	DECISION DATE	05/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	195 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** A four-lot Rural Industrial B subdivision and cancellation of amalgamation conditions and cancellation of easements.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

SM-2025-113302-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS**
	LODGMENT DATE	25/11/2025
PRIME SPV LIMITED	DECISION DATE	05/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	195 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	Cancellation of amalgamation	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

SM-2025-113303-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS**
	LODGMENT DATE	25/11/2025
PRIME SPV LIMITED	DECISION DATE	05/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	195 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	cancellation of easements	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113277-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
ZOON SIK KANG TRUST	**DECISION DATE**	09/02/2026
PLANNING	**EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]**	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	741 BACK ORMOND ROAD HEXTON	
PROPOSAL	To construct a new dwelling and accessory structures at 741 Back Ormond Road that will result in a total impervious surface area of 39% and the altering of the ground level in F4 Flood Hazard Area by deposition of over 500m³ of fill to raise building platform.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113278-00	**APPLICATION TYPE**	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
ZOON SIK KANG TRUST	**DECISION DATE**	09/02/2026
REGIONAL	**EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]**	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	741 BACK ORMOND ROAD HEXTON	
PROPOSAL	To construct a new dwelling and accessory structures at 741 Back Ormond Road that will result in a total impervious surface area of 39% and the altering of the ground level in F4 Flood Hazard Area by deposition of over 500m³ of fill to raise building platform.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

WG-2024-112250-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - TAKE U/GROUND WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	11/03/2024
TAYLOR, GREGORY JOHN	DECISION DATE	09/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2029
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	73 INGRAM ROAD WAERENGAAHIKA	
PROPOSAL	To take and use groundwater from the Waipaoa Gravel Aquifer (A-block) at a rate of 4.3 litres per second, to maximum daily volumes of 190cubic metres and maximum annual volume of 17,700 cubic meters per annum being from 1 July to 30 June for each year to irrigate a total of 5.1 canopy hectares of orchards with Avocado and Oranges as illustrated in Figure 01.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LR-2025-108139-04	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	21/05/2025
PONGA SILVA LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	MATA ROAD TAUWHAREPARAE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To change conditions 1, 36, 37 and 38 in order to provide for a total of 11 slash catcher structures in the stream bed and associated maintenance and repair. The location of the structures is as per approved drawings under condition 1. Changes to conditions in Schedule 1 are shown for removals by strikethrough and shown for additions by being underlined.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113184-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/10/2025
OWEN FAMILY TRUSTEE SERVICES LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	1/167 STANLEY ROAD AWAPUNI	
PROPOSAL	To subdivide Lot 2 Deposited Plan 6933 into two new lots and construct an industrial building.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	6 UNDER TGT	

SG-2025-113185-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/10/2025
OWEN FAMILY TRUSTEE SERVICES LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	1/167 STANLEY ROAD AWAPUNI	
PROPOSAL	To subdivide Lot 2 Deposited Plan 6933 into two new lots and construct an industrial building.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	6 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-108138-04	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	21/05/2025
PONGA SILVA LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	MATA ROAD TAUWHAREPARAE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To change conditions 1, 36, 37 and 38 in order to provide for a total of 11 slash catcher structures in the stream bed and associated maintenance and repair. The location of the structures is as per approved drawings under condition 1. Changes to conditions in Schedule 1 are shown for removals by strikethrough and shown for additions by being underlined.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113028-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	22/07/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	12/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	12/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	5 FERNEAUX STREET TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To carry out remediation works on the former landfill at the Tolaga Bay League Domain.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-113029-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE
	LODGMENT DATE	7/22/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	12/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	12/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	5 FERNEAUX STREET TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To carry out remediation works on the former landfill at the Tolaga Bay League Domain. Consent LL-2025-113028-00 is required for: - The disturbance of more than 10m3 of soil on land within a 3-month period under Rule C7.1.6(30) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Land disturbance within 200m of the MHWS under Rule C3.13.3(13) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Earthworks within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent LV-2025-113029-00 is required for: - The clearance of vegetation within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent DL-2025-113030-00 is required for: - This disposal of cleanfill onto the site under Rule C6.2.12(2) of the TRMP as a Discretionary Activity. Consent LU-2025-113344-00 is required for: - The construction and use of a vehicle crossing that is not hard sealed under Rules C2.1.7(l) and DD5.6.1D(11) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113030-00	APPLICATION TYPE	DISCHARGE TO LAND
	LODGMENT DATE	22/07/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	12/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	12/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	5 FERNEAUX STREET TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To carry out remediation works on the former landfill at the Tolaga Bay League Domain. Consent LL-2025-113028-00 is required for: - The disturbance of more than 10m3 of soil on land within a 3-month period under Rule C7.1.6(30) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Land disturbance within 200m of the MHWS under Rule C3.13.3(13) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Earthworks within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent LV-2025-113029-00 is required for: - The clearance of vegetation within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent DL-2025-113030-00 is required for: - This disposal of cleanfill onto the site under Rule C6.2.12(2) of the TRMP as a Discretionary Activity. Consent LU-2025-113344-00 is required for: - The construction and use of a vehicle crossing that is not hard sealed under Rules C2.1.7(l) and DD5.6.1D(11) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

WG-2026-113343-00	APPLICATION TYPE	WATER PERMIT - TAKE U/GROUND WATER
	LODGMENT DATE	13/01/2026
NGAI TUKAIRANGI TRUST TRADING CO LIMITED	DECISION DATE	12/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2028
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	104 COLLEGE ROAD WAERENGAAHIKA	
PROPOSAL	To take and use groundwater from the Makauri Aquifer at a rate of 19.0 litres per second, to maximum volumes of 1,606m3 per day and 108,358m3 per irrigation season, being from 1 July to 30 June each year. This water is to be used to irrigate 42.76 hectares of orchard, being kiwifruit, persimmons and mandarins. The proposal requires consent as a restricted discretionary activity under rule C6.1.2(10) of the TRMP.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113344-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	22/07/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	12/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	12/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	5 FERNEAUX STREET TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To carry out remediation works on the former landfill at the Tolaga Bay League Domain. Consent LL-2025-113028-00 is required for: - The disturbance of more than 10m3 of soil on land within a 3-month period under Rule C7.1.6(30) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Land disturbance within 200m of the MHWS under Rule C3.13.3(13) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity. - Earthworks within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent LV-2025-113029-00 is required for: - The clearance of vegetation within or within a 10m setback from a Natural Inland Wetland under Regulation 54 of the NES-F as a Non-Complying Activity. Consent DL-2025-113030-00 is required for: - This disposal of cleanfill onto the site under Rule C6.2.12(2) of the TRMP as a Discretionary Activity. Consent LU-2025-113344-00 is required for: - The construction and use of a vehicle crossing that is not hard sealed under Rules C2.1.7(l) and DD5.6.1D(11) of the TRMP as a Restricted Discretionary Activity.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

NF-2025-113253-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/11/2025
KAURI FORESTRY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	DECISION DATE	17/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	KIORE ROAD WAIMATA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the maintenance and upgrading of five existing earth dams within Glen Tui, Maunga o Rangi, and Punawai Forests for use as fire-fighting water sources, including associated land disturbance and the temporary discharge of water to land during dam dewatering.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	31 OVER TGT	

DL-2025-113254-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/11/2025
KAURI FORESTRY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	DECISION DATE	17/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	KIORE ROAD WAIMATA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the maintenance and upgrading of five existing earth dams within Glen Tui, Maunga o Rangi, and Punawai Forests for use as fire-fighting water sources, including associated land disturbance and the temporary discharge of water to land during dam dewatering.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	31 OVER TGT	

LL-2025-113333-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE
	LODGMENT DATE	15/12/2025
VAN DER VELDE FAMILY TRUST	DECISION DATE	18/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	18/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	4A RIVERSIDE ROAD WHATAUPOKO	
PROPOSAL	Consent is provided to undertake approximately 95m3 of land disturbance on Land Overlay 2 soils to replace an existing retaining wall.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

LR-2026-113334-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
ARATU FORESTS LIMITED	DECISION DATE	18/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/02/2027
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	HOKOROA ROAD TAUWHAREPARAE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to remove accumulated wind-thrown woody debris from approximately 200 m of the Ratahi Stream using excavators operating within the stream bed	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2026-113367-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
ARATU FORESTS LIMITED	DECISION DATE	18/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	HOKOROA ROAD TAUWHAREPARAE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to remove accumulated wind-thrown woody debris from approximately 200 m of the Ratahi Stream using excavators operating within the stream bed	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113284-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	02/12/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	19/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	29/01/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	MANGATU ROAD WHATATUTU	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake works to remediate the under slip on Mangatu Road.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

DL-2025-113285-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	02/12/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	19/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	29/01/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	MANGATU ROAD WHATATUTU	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake works to remediate the under slip on Mangatu Road.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 OVER TGT	

LU-2025-113279-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	02/12/2025
HICKS BAY DRAINAGE LTD	DECISION DATE	20/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	320 WHARF ROAD HICKS BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is granted for the construction of a new implement and storage shed, along with associated earthworks, at 320 Wharf Road, Hicks Bay.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113280-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	02/12/2025
HICKS BAY DRAINAGE LTD	DECISION DATE	20/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	NON-COMPLYING
LOCATION	320 WHARF ROAD HICKS BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is granted for the construction of a new implement and storage shed, along with associated earthworks, at 320 Wharf Road, Hicks Bay.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

WG-2026-111804-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - TAKE U/GROUND WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	16/01/2026
BEEHIVE DEMETRA LIMITED	DECISION DATE	23/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2028
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	36 JUDD ROAD WAITUHI	
PROPOSAL	To take and use groundwater from bore no. GPI056 for irrigation purposes.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

WI-2025-113189-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/10/2025
CLEARVIEW FOREST LP	DECISION DATE	23/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	20/12/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PARIKANAPA ROAD WAINGAKE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided for the harvest of 11.66 ha of plantation forestry within ESC Red Zone land, construction of two drift-deck stream crossings, associated earthworks and landing/road construction.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113190-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/10/2025
CLEARVIEW FOREST LP	DECISION DATE	23/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PARIKANAPA ROAD WAINGAKE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided for the harvest of 11.66 ha of plantation forestry within ESC Red Zone land, construction of two drift-deck stream crossings, associated earthworks and landing/road construction.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LR-2025-113191-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/10/2025
CLEARVIEW FOREST LP	DECISION DATE	23/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PARIKANAPA ROAD WAINGAKE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided for the harvest of 11.66 ha of plantation forestry within ESC Red Zone land, construction of two drift-deck stream crossings, associated earthworks and landing/road construction.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

NF-2025-113192-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/10/2025
CLEARVIEW FOREST LP	DECISION DATE	23/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PARIKANAPA ROAD WAINGAKE	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided for the harvest of 11.66 ha of plantation forestry within ESC Red Zone land, construction of two drift-deck stream crossings, associated earthworks and landing/road construction.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LV-2025-113247-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	19/11/2025
TOMLINSON, JILLIAN MELISSA	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	39 MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake land disturbance of up to 50m3 and removal of approximately just over 10m2 of vegetation at 39 Makorori Beach Road to install a retaining wall and improve subsurface drainage to protect the dwelling from landslide risk.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113313-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/12/2025
NEWTON, TANI TANIWHA	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	10 KIPLING ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	Consent is provided to relocate a 100m2 light timber framed, 3 Bedroom second hand dwelling positioned at the front of the site at 10 Kipling Road, Te Karaka, Gisborne.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113239-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	18/11/2025
KAINGA ORA - HOMES AND COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	2 - 6 MANUKA STREET ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the construction of eight dwellings, including ancillary works on a contaminated site, and subdivision around the approved development.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

SG-2025-113240-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	18/11/2025
KAINGA ORA - HOMES AND COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	2 - 6 MANUKA STREET ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the construction of eight dwellings, including ancillary works on a contaminated site, and subdivision around the approved development.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113349-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	18/11/2025
KAINGA ORA - HOMES AND COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	2 - 6 MANUKA STREET ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the construction of eight dwellings, including ancillary works on a contaminated site, and subdivision around the approved development.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

NC-2025-113241-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL**
	LODGMENT DATE	18/11/2025
KAINGA ORA - HOMES AND COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	2 - 6 MANUKA STREET ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for the construction of eight dwellings, including ancillary works on a contaminated site, and subdivision around the approved development.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

LL-2025-113246-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	19/11/2025
TOMLINSON, JILLIAN MELISSA	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	24/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	39 MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake land disturbance of up to 50m3 and removal of approximately just over 10m2 of vegetation at 39 Makorori Beach Road to install a retaining wall and improve subsurface drainage to protect the dwelling from landslide risk.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2026-113342-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	15/01/2026
COOPER, IAN LESLIE	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WAINUI ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	Consent is granted for the construction of a new dwelling and garage, along with associated earthworks, located at Section 4, Survey Office Plan 8513, Wainui.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

NF-2025-113083-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	30/08/2025
LANDCORP FARMING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/01/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	111 MORICE ROAD TAHUNGA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to harvest 16 ha of p.radiata on predominantly red ESC zoned land, associated earthworks, replanting of 18ha of red ESC zone in Cypress/Cedar, cable hauling across a stream, and land disturbance, clearance of plantation forestry within the riparian management area of an Aquatic Ecosystem waterbody, and vegetation clearance within riparian management areas as a result of cable hauling across a surface waterbody.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LR-2025-113102-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	30/08/2025
LANDCORP FARMING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	24/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	111 MORICE ROAD TAHUNGA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to harvest 16 ha of p.radiata on predominantly red ESC zoned land, associated earthworks, replanting of 18ha of red ESC zone in Cypress/Cedar, cable hauling across a stream, and land disturbance, clearance of plantation forestry within the riparian management area of an Aquatic Ecosystem waterbody, and vegetation clearance within riparian management areas as a result of cable hauling across a surface waterbody.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

SM-2026-113357-00	APPLICATION TYPE	SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS
	LODGMENT DATE	11/02/2026
LEWIS, MARK ANTHONY	DECISION DATE	26/02/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RIGHT OF WAY
LOCATION	135 RIVERSIDE ROAD WHATAUPOKO	
PROPOSAL	creation of a right of way over lot 7	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	10 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-113337-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE
	LODGMENT DATE	17/12/2025
K K SHAW FAMILY TRUST	DECISION DATE	27/02/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/02/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	4381 MATAWAI ROAD OTOKO	
PROPOSAL	For vegetation clearance by aerial herbicide application approximately 35ha of indigenous vegetation on ESC Red and orange land as a restricted discretionary activity. The indigenous vegetation comprises kanuka trees scattered amongst pasture and closed canopy kanuka forest.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED – MARCH 2026

SG-2025-113314-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	15/12/2025
BURGESS, MARIE EDA	DECISION DATE	05/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	162 PIPIWHAKAO ROAD NGATAPA	
PROPOSAL	To reconfigure existing productive boundaries at 162 Pipiwhakao Road.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	10 UNDER TGT	

DL-2026-113325-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	DECISION DATE	05/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	05/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	31 MILL ROAD TE HAPARA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To undertake land disturbance of up to approximately 1,584m3 of contaminated soils, including the removal of 645m3 offsite.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	22 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-113326-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	DECISION DATE	05/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	05/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	31 MILL ROAD TE HAPARA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To undertake land disturbance of up to approximately 1,584m3 of contaminated soils, including the removal of 645m3 offsite.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	22 UNDER TGT	

SG-2026-113354-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	09/02/2026
GOOCH, SHANAN RAMON	DECISION DATE	06/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	34 VALLEY ROAD MANGAPAPA	
PROPOSAL	To subdivide the property at 34 Valley Road, Gisborne, legally described as Lot 60 DP 1569, into two new allotments.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113385-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	26/11/2025
TAKIRAU PRO LIMITED	DECISION DATE	09/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	MAIN ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to subdivide Lot 40 Deposited Plan 1323 into 16 new residential allotments, with access road to vest and 2 Jointly Owned Access Lot (JOALs). The consent also includes diversion of water within 100m of a natural inland wetland.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

WI-2025-113271-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	26/11/2025
TAKIRAU PRO LIMITED	DECISION DATE	09/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	MAIN ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to subdivide Lot 40 Deposited Plan 1323 into 16 new residential allotments, with access road to vest and 2 Jointly Owned Access Lot (JOALs). The consent also includes diversion of water within 100m of a natural inland wetland.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

SG-2025-113272-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	26/11/2025
TAKIRAU PRO LIMITED	DECISION DATE	09/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	MAIN ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to subdivide Lot 40 Deposited Plan 1323 into 16 new residential allotments, with access road to vest and 2 Jointly Owned Access Lot (JOALs). The consent also includes diversion of water within 100m of a natural inland wetland.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

FW-2025-113273-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - FRESH WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	26/11/2025
TAKIRAU PRO LIMITED	DECISION DATE	09/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	MAIN ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to subdivide Lot 40 Deposited Plan 1323 into 16 new residential allotments, with access road to vest and 2 Jointly Owned Access Lot (JOALs). The consent also includes diversion of water within 100m of a natural inland wetland.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-111647-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	10/02/2026
COOK, DEAN THOMAS	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	109 MAIN ROAD MAKARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to vary conditions 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 of resource consent (reference LU-2022-111647-00/NC-2022-111648-00) in order to remove the existing commercial building from site, and redevelop the building to allow for Easts Outdoor Work	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

NC-2026-111648-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL**
	LODGMENT DATE	10/02/2026
COOK, DEAN THOMAS	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	109 MAIN ROAD MAKARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to vary conditions 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 of resource consent (reference LU-2022-111647-00/NC-2022-111648-00) in order to remove the existing commercial building from site, and redevelop the building to allow for Easts Outdoor Work	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

WD-2026-113374-00	APPLICATION TYPE	DISCHARGE WASTEWATER TO LAND
	LODGMENT DATE	10/02/2026
COOK, DEAN THOMAS	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	109 MAIN ROAD MAKARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to vary conditions 1, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 of resource consent (reference LU-2022-111647-00/NC-2022-111648-00) in order to remove the existing commercial building from site, and redevelop the building to allow for Easts Outdoor Work	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	9 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113319-00	APPLICATION TYPE	LAND USE
	LODGMENT DATE	16/12/2025
TURANGANUI-A-KIWA HOUSING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	BULWER ROAD ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Build 9 new units (or 'whare') at the subject site (32 Bulwer Road, Te Hapara); and carry out development around a 10th, existing unit at the site, being the existing residence at 29 Muir Street, Te Hapara with associated earthworks and fencin	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	16 UNDER TGT	

NC-2025-113320-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL**
	LODGMENT DATE	16/12/2025
TURANGANUI-A-KIWA HOUSING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	BULWER ROAD ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Build 9 new units (or 'whare') at the subject site (32 Bulwer Road, Te Hapara); and carry out development around a 10th, existing unit at the site, being the existing residence at 29 Muir Street, Te Hapara with associated earthworks and fencin	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	16 UNDER TGT	

SM-2025-113321-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS**
	LODGMENT DATE	16/12/2025
TURANGANUI-A-KIWA HOUSING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RIGHT OF WAY
LOCATION	BULWER ROAD ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	creation of a Right of Way easement to provide legal access for Lot 1 DP 549554 over Lot 28 DP 1841.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	16 UNDER TGT	

NF-2026-113366-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	26/01/2026
MYLES MULLOOLY LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	25/02/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	269 PUHA SETTLEMENT ROAD WHATATUTU	
PROPOSAL	Consent is provided for the afforestation of approximately 5 hectares of red ESC zoned land	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	6 UNDER TGT	

SM-2026-113368-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/02/2026
TURANGANUI-A-KIWA HOUSING LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION	20/32 BULWER ROAD ELGIN	
PROPOSAL	To change consent notice 11879023.4 which is presently registered on the Records of Title for properties at 1/32 - 17/32 Bulwer Road	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	6 UNDER TGT	

WS-2024-112658-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - TAKE SURFACE WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/11/2024
ROBERTS FARMING COMPANY LIMITED	DECISION DATE	11/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2030
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	453 PAPATU ROAD WAERENGAOKURI	
PROPOSAL	To authorise the take and use surface water from the Te Arai River (A-Block) up to a maximum volume of 450 cubic metres of water per day, up to a maximum of 31,300 cubic metres of water per annum at a maximum rate of take of 7 litres per second, for the i	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	21 UNDER TGT	

LR-2025-113023-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	21/07/2025
JUKEN NEW ZEALAND LIMITED	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	10/03/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHARERATA ROAD BARTLETTS	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**to carry out harvest of Pine (P. Radiata). The harvest plan includes cable hauler harvesting of approximately 69.8ha over an area of 75.3ha.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-113024-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	21/07/2025
JUKEN NEW ZEALAND LIMITED	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	10/03/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHARERATA ROAD BARTLETTS	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to carry out harvest of Pine (P. Radiata). The harvest plan includes cable hauler harvesting of approximately 69.8ha over an area of 75.3ha.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

WI-2025-113345-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	10/12/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	13/03/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	744 WHANGARA ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** the placement, use and maintenance of rockbags and associated diversion of the Turihaua Stream for bank protection purposes undertaken as Emergency Works.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LR-2025-113346-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	10/12/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - LIVEABLE COMMUNITIES	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	WATER PERMITS ONLY
LOCATION	744 WHANGARA ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** the placement, use and maintenance of rockbags and associated diversion of the Turihaua Stream for bank protection purposes undertaken as Emergency Works.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113335-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	19/12/2025
PUKETAWAI MARAE	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	05/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	22 KAIAUA ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to undertake earthworks associated with the redevelopment of the Puketawai Marae in Tolaga Bay. The earthworks include cut and fill activities that will alter ground levels within the Flood Hazard Overlay, will affect an unscheduled archaeolog	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113336-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	19/12/2025
PUKETAWAI MARAE	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	05/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	22 KAIAUA ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to undertake earthworks associated with the redevelopment of the Puketawai Marae in Tolaga Bay. The earthworks include cut and fill activities that will alter ground levels within the Flood Hazard Overlay, will affect an unscheduled archaeolog	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

NF-2025-113022-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	21/07/2025
JUKEN NEW ZEALAND LIMITED	DECISION DATE	12/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	10/03/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHARERATA ROAD BARTLETTS	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to carry out harvest of Pine (P. Radiata). The harvest plan includes cable hauler harvesting of approximately 69.8ha over an area of 75.3ha.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-110206-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	03/03/2026
VIGIS, JONATHAN CRAIG	DECISION DATE	13/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	EXTENSION OF LAPSE TIME
LOCATION	44 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	Land use consent LU-2021-11026-00; LL-2021-110207-00 to be extended to 9 March 2029 to give effect to.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	12 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-110207-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	03/03/2026
VIGIS, JONATHAN CRAIG	DECISION DATE	13/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	EXTENSION OF LAPSE TIME
LOCATION	44 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	Land use consent LU-2021-11026-00; LL-2021-110207-00 to be extended to 9 March 2029 to give effect to.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	12 UNDER TGT	

WI-2026-113375-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	16/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	16/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHAREPONGA ROAD	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided to carry out road reinstatement works on Whareponga Road and the diversion of the Waikohu Stream.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

LR-2026-113327-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	16/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	16/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHAREPONGA ROAD	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided to carry out road reinstatement works on Whareponga Road and the diversion of the Waikohu Stream.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-113328-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL	DECISION DATE	16/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	16/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WHAREPONGA ROAD	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Consent is provided to carry out road reinstatement works on Whareponga Road and the diversion of the Waikohu Stream.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-113388-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/12/2025
JOHNSTONE, KARL	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1D MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for construction of a minor dwelling in addition to a consented primary dwelling on a site located within the Coastal Environment Overlay and the Site Caution Overlay	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113227-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/11/2025
NORMAN, LIAM	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	11 DEVERY STREET MANGAPAPA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to subdivide 11 Devery Street into two Lots of which, Lot 2 is of substandard size. Consent is also provided to construct a dwelling on Lot 2	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

SG-2025-113228-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/11/2025
NORMAN, LIAM	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	11 DEVERY STREET MANGAPAPA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to subdivide 11 Devery Street into two Lots of which, Lot 2 is of substandard size. Consent is also provided to construct a dwelling on Lot 2	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113330-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/12/2025
JOHNSTONE, KARL	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1D MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for construction of a minor dwelling in addition to a consented primary dwelling on a site located within the Coastal Environment Overlay and the Site Caution Overlay	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LL-2025-113331-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/12/2025
JOHNSTONE, KARL	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1D MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for construction of a minor dwelling in addition to a consented primary dwelling on a site located within the Coastal Environment Overlay and the Site Caution Overlay	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113332-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/12/2025
JOHNSTONE, KARL	DECISION DATE	17/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	17/03/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1D MAKORORI BEACH ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided for construction of a minor dwelling in addition to a consented primary dwelling on a site located within the Coastal Environment Overlay and the Site Caution Overlay	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

DL-2026-113370-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/02/2026
THE ALF FAMILY TRUST	DECISION DATE	19/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	19/03/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1089 WHANGARA ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to for the discharge of wastewater to land and land disturbance in support of a new onsite wastewater disposal system	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-113371-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/02/2026
THE ALF FAMILY TRUST	DECISION DATE	19/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1089 WHANGARA ROAD MAKORORI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to for the discharge of wastewater to land and land disturbance in support of a new onsite wastewater disposal system	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-113384-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	27/02/2026
FILE, LIAM REECE	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	18 COCHRANE STREET TE HAPARA	
PROPOSAL	to relocate a four-bedroom second hand dwelling unit onto the rear of the subject site	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113140-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LL-2025-113141-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

DL-2025-113142-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

WI-2025-113143-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

FW-2025-113144-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - FRESH WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

LR-2025-113145-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

LV-2025-113146-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	06/10/2025
GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL - COMMUNITY LIFELINES	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	31/03/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED**Realignment of 2.4km of Tiniroto Road including 2 permanent single lane bridges and one temporary bridge over the Hangaroa River.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 OVER TGT	

LU-2026-113369-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	17/02/2026
WILLSON, BEVERLEY CATHERINE	DECISION DATE	20/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	546 NELSON ROAD LYTTON WEST	
PROPOSAL	Consent is provided for a second dwelling on a Rural Residential site that has more than two habitable rooms and is not located in close proximity to the principal dwelling.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113286-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
COXCO FARMING & HORTICULTURE LTD	DECISION DATE	23/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	634 AWAPUNI ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	To establish Stages 1 and 2 of an accommodation complex housing up to 130 seasonal workers/staff who work on Coxco Ltd farming properties and other farming entities.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

WI-2025-113287-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
COXCO FARMING & HORTICULTURE LTD	DECISION DATE	23/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	634 AWAPUNI ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	To establish Stages 1 and 2 of an accommodation complex housing up to 130 seasonal workers/staff who work on Coxco Ltd farming properties and other farming entities.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

DL-2025-113288-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
COXCO FARMING & HORTICULTURE LTD	DECISION DATE	23/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	18/03/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	634 AWAPUNI ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	To establish Stages 1 and 2 of an accommodation complex housing up to 130 seasonal workers/staff who work on Coxco Ltd farming properties and other farming entities.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

NC-2025-113289-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - CONTAMINANTS IN SOIL**
	LODGMENT DATE	28/11/2025
COXCO FARMING & HORTICULTURE LTD	DECISION DATE	23/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	634 AWAPUNI ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	Establish and operate a sesonal workers accommodation facility for up to 130 workers at 634 Awapuni Road	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

SM-2026-113387-00	APPLICATION TYPE	SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS
	LODGMENT DATE	04/03/2026
WOODWARD CHRISP	DECISION DATE	25/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION		
PROPOSAL	Partial surrender of easement certificate 212935.9	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	5 UNDER TGT	

SM-2026-113393-00	APPLICATION TYPE	SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS
	LODGMENT DATE	10/03/2026
POHO O RAWIRI MARAE COMMITTEE	DECISION DATE	25/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION	CRAWFORD ROAD KAITI	
PROPOSAL	To remove section 351D of the Municipal Corporations Act 1954 from Record of Title GS1A/299 to enable Lot 2 DP 5090 to be separated from the existing title and the amalgamation of Lot 2 DP 5090 with Kaiti 59 Block contained in Record of Title GS3B/1144	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	10 UNDER TGT	

WI-2025-108198-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/02/2025
FULTON HOGAN LIMITED	DECISION DATE	27/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	62 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to amend conditions of consent to allow for the removal of a shelterbelt, amendments to signage and removal of stormwater monitoring which will be managed under the associated consents set out in application LL-2025-112807-00, DL-2025-112808-0	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	10 OVER TGT	

SG-2026-113380-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	27/02/2026
NELSON, CAROLYN JANE	DECISION DATE	27/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	284 ORMOND ROAD MANGAPAPA	
PROPOSAL	to subdivide Lot 15 Deposited Plan 2221 into two allotments, with each lot containing an existing dwelling.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-108069-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/02/2025
FULTON HOGAN LIMITED	DECISION DATE	27/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	62 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** to amend conditions of consent to allow for the removal of a shelterbelt, amendments to signage and removal of stormwater monitoring which will be managed under the associated consents set out in application LL-2025-112807-00, DL-2025-112808-0	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

CE-2026-113382-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	27/03/2026
FORTYSOUTH LIMITED	DECISION DATE	30/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	PERMITTED
LOCATION	122 KARAUA ROAD MANUTUKE	
PROPOSAL	To establish, operate, and maintain a mobile telecommunications facility.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-112807-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/02/2025
FULTON HOGAN LIMITED	DECISION DATE	30/03/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	24/03/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	62 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To discharge contaminated water from Hydro excavation and stormwater to land that may enter water.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

WI-2025-112808-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - DIVERT WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	24/02/2025
FULTON HOGAN LIMITED	DECISION DATE	30/03/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	24/02/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	62 DUNSTAN ROAD MATAWHERO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To discharge contaminated water from Hydro excavation and stormwater to land that may enter water.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 OVER TGT	

RESOURCE CONSENTS GRANTED – APRIL 2026

LB-2026-113401-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - BORE**
	LODGMENT DATE	11/03/2026
TAANA, RAEWYN RAHIA	DECISION DATE	01/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	01/04/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	113 MAIN ROAD TOLAGA BAY	
PROPOSAL	to construct an abstraction bore at 113 Main Road, Tolaga Bay. The bore is expected to be 100mm diameter and approximately 40m deep.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	6 UNDER TGT	

SG-2026-113212-01	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/03/2026
SHERRATT, JOHN WOODBINE	DECISION DATE	02/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	3374 TINIROTO ROAD HANGAROA	
PROPOSAL	to change condition 1, delete condition 4 and 5 and add a new condition 5 for resource consent SG-2025-113212-00 in order to remove the requirement to supply an electricity connection to Lot 2 of the subdivision.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	12 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113305-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/12/2025
MEBAN, JOHN READ	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	105 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of a wastewater management system and land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113306-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/12/2025
MEBAN, JOHN READ	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	105 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of a wastewater management system and land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 UNDER TGT	

LL-2025-113307-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/12/2025
MEBAN, JOHN READ	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	105 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of a wastewater management system and land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-113390-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/02/2026
WILLIAMS, KATE	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	57 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of an onsite wastewater management system. The proposal also includes land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

DL-2026-113391-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/02/2026
WILLIAMS, KATE	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/04/2041
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	57 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of an onsite wastewater management system. The proposal also includes land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-113392-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	23/02/2026
WILLIAMS, KATE	DECISION DATE	07/07/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/04/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	57 WAIRERE ROAD WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to construct and occupy a single detached replacement dwelling on a coastal property. The proposal includes the construction of an onsite wastewater management system. The proposal also includes land disturbance to facilitate the development of the dwelling, wastewater system, vehicle access, and swimming pool	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-113361-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/02/2026
TEUTENBERG, NATHAN FRANCIS	DECISION DATE	07/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	5 TUAHINE CRESCENT WAINUI	
PROPOSAL	To install an inground swimming pool located at 5 Tuahine Crescent, Wainui, Gisborne. The works will involve approximately 45m³ of earthworks and the pool will be formed using reinforced concrete with masonry retaining walls.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113186-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	29/10/2025
TOITU TAIRAWHITI BUILDSMART LIMITED	DECISION DATE	10/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	5 KANAKANAIA ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	Consent is provided to establish and operate a 1,586.82 kWDC community scale solar energy farm on Te Karaka Area School property.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	5 UNDER TGT	

LL-2026-113339-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
RUANGAREHU J2 TRUST	DECISION DATE	15/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	13/04/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PITCHER ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	To undertake earthworks associated with the redevelopment of Takipu Marae on Pitcher Road, Te Karaka.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

DL-2026-113340-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	12/01/2026
RUANGAREHU J2 TRUST	DECISION DATE	15/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	PITCHER ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	To undertake earthworks associated with the redevelopment of Takipu Marae on Pitcher Road, Te Karaka.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	1 UNDER TGT	

LV-2025-113309-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - VEGETATION CLEARANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	11/12/2025
SMITHFIELD STATION LIMITED	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	17/04/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	1001 WHAREKOPAE ROAD NGATAPA	
PROPOSAL	To undertake the clearance of approximately 27 hectares of regenerating kanuka and manuka scrub on Omahanui Farm by helicopter spraying to enable conversion of the land to pasture for sheep and beef farming.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

WS-2026-113394-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**WATER PERMIT - TAKE SURFACE WATER**
	LODGMENT DATE	09/03/2026
HEB CONSTRUCTION LIMITED	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	09/04/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	3558 TINIROTO ROAD HANGAROA	
PROPOSAL	To take water from the Hangaroa River to use for dust suppression and other construction uses during the construction of the Hangaroa Bluffs bypass road.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2026-113363-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/02/2026
TEESDALE, ANDREW JAMES	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	5 HELYER STREET ORMOND	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To subdivide Sections 73-74 TN of Ormond into four new lots and construct three dwellings on the proposed Lots 2-4.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

SG-2026-113364-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISION GENERAL**
	LODGMENT DATE	13/02/2026
TEESDALE, ANDREW JAMES	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	5 HELYER STREET ORMOND	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** To subdivide Sections 73-74 TN of Ormond into four new lots and construct three dwellings on the proposed Lots 2-4.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	4 UNDER TGT	

LU-2025-113207-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/11/2025
RANGATIRA MARAE TRUST	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	82 KANAKANAIA ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is granted for the construction of the Rangatira Marae development located at 82 Kanakanaia Road, Te Karaka, including associated earthworks. The earthworks involve cut and fill activities that will modify ground levels within the Areas Liable to Flooding (F4) overlay.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LL-2025-113208-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/11/2025
RANGATIRA MARAE TRUST	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	82 KANAKANAIA ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is granted for the construction of the Rangatira Marae development located at 82 Kanakanaia Road, Te Karaka, including associated earthworks. The earthworks involve cut and fill activities that will modify ground levels within the Areas Liable to Flooding (F4) overlay.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

LU-2026-113411-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	20/03/2026
VERSATILE HOMES AND BUILDINGS	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	21 PARKER LANE MAKARAKA	
PROPOSAL	to construct a new garage and carport at 21 Parker Lane that will result in exceeding the maximum impervious surfaces area of approximately 50%.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	3 UNDER TGT	

DL-2025-113416-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	05/11/2025
RANGATIRA MARAE TRUST	DECISION DATE	17/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	82 KANAKANAIA ROAD TE KARAKA	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is granted for the construction of the Rangatira Marae development located at 82 Kanakanaia Road, Te Karaka, including associated earthworks. The earthworks involve cut and fill activities that will modify ground levels within the Areas Liable to Flooding (F4) overlay.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

WS-2026-113395-00	APPLICATION TYPE	WATER PERMIT - TAKE SURFACE WATER
	LODGMENT DATE	06/03/2026
JOHNSON, CHARLIE	DECISION DATE	23/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2029
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	MCMILLAN ROAD WAIPAOA	
PROPOSAL	Consent sought to partially transfer water currently held under consent WS-2024-112286-00 to NVH Limited (consent WS-2026-113396-00). Consent WS-2024-112286-00 will be cancelled on grant of consent WS-2026-113395-00.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

WS-2026-113396-00	APPLICATION TYPE	WATER PERMIT - TAKE SURFACE WATER
	LODGMENT DATE	06/03/2026
NVH LIMITED	DECISION DATE	23/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	30/06/2029
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	1809 MATAWAI ROAD WAIPAOA	
PROPOSAL	to receive a partial transfer of Waipaoa A Block surface water allocation from consent WS-2024-112286-00 (held by Charlie Johnson) with the transfer applying to a rate of take of 4.5 L/s only. The applicant then seeks to take and use water from the Waipaoa A Block at a maximum daily volume of 388.8 m³/day and an annual volume of 51,100 m³/year to irrigate approximately 9.85 hectares of kiwifruit.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	2 UNDER TGT	

NF-2026-113398-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	11/03/2026
INGKA INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT NZ LTD	DECISION DATE	23/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	22/04/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	RESTRICTED DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	FERNSIDE ROAD TAUWHAREPARAE	
PROPOSAL	afforestation of approximately total 152 ha including 73.3 ha of Redwood at 625 stems per hectare as plantation forest, approximately 71 ha of manuka and approximately 7.7 ha of totara as permanent vegetation within the National Environmental Standard for Commercial Forestry Erosion Susceptibility Classification 'Very High Risk' (ESC Red) land at Matanui Station.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

LU-2025-113198-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE**
	LODGMENT DATE	30/10/2025
TOITU TAIRAWHITI BUILDSMART LIMITED	DECISION DATE	23/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	BACK ORMOND ROAD LYTTON WEST	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake a comprehensive residential development of Lot 1 DP 9609 which is vacant residential zoned land located adjacent to the Gisborne Hospital site. The overall development is a bundled land use and subdivision consent and will be completed in stages, with this particular application being Stage 2. Stage 2 includes provision of 85 residential units (bringing the total number of dwellings across the site to 148). The dwellings will consist of a mix of housing typologies with single and two storey designs. The subdivision component will enable the roading network and three waters infrastructure to be vested with Gisborne District Council, it is not proposed to subdivide the development into individual house lots.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 UNDER TGT	

SG-2025-113199-00	APPLICATION TYPE	SUBDIVISION GENERAL
	LODGMENT DATE	30/10/2025
TOITU TAIRAWHITI BUILDSMART LIMITED	**DECISION DATE**	23/04/2026
PLANNING	**EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]**	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	BACK ORMOND ROAD LYTTON WEST	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to undertake a comprehensive residential development of Lot 1 DP 9609 which is vacant residential zoned land located adjacent to the Gisborne Hospital site. The overall development is a bundled land use and subdivision consent and will be completed in stages, with this particular application being Stage 2. Stage 2 includes provision of 85 residential units (bringing the total number of dwellings across the site to 148). The dwellings will consist of a mix of housing typologies with single and two storey designs. The subdivision component will enable the roading network and three waters infrastructure to be vested with Gisborne District Council, it is not proposed to subdivide the development into individual house lots.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	7 UNDER TGT	

NF-2026-113373-00	**APPLICATION TYPE**	**NES - PLANTATION FORESTRY**
	LODGMENT DATE	20/02/2026
FLEETWOOD FOREST TRUSTEE LIMITED	**DECISION DATE**	28/04/2026
REGIONAL	**EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]**	01/05/2031
	ACTIVITY CLASS	CONTROLLED
LOCATION	2323 TINIROTO ROAD TINIROTO	
PROPOSAL	The replant of approximately 100ha of red ESC zoned land	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	MET TARGET	

DL-2025-113412-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	30/04/2025
TAHARORA MARAE	DECISION DATE	28/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION	603 KOPUAROA ROAD WAIPIRO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Retrospective land disturbance of up to 65m3 on Land Overlay 2 soils and to discharge stormwater from the roof and paved areas to land not to a natural watercourse.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	24 OVER TGT	

LR-2025-112901-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAKE/RIVER BED**
	LODGMENT DATE	14/04/2025
MATEAWA KEELAN	DECISION DATE	28/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WAIAPU ROAD WAIPIRO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to deposit material exceeding 500m3 within 20m of a TRMP scheduled G15 waterbody and to undertake excavation works in the bed of a river.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	19 OVER TGT	

DL-2025-112902-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**DISCHARGE TO LAND**
	LODGMENT DATE	14/04/2025
MATEAWA KEELAN	DECISION DATE	28/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	DISCRETIONARY
LOCATION	WAIAPU ROAD WAIPIRO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Consent is provided to deposit material exceeding 500m3 within 20m of a TRMP scheduled G15 waterbody and to undertake excavation works in the bed of a river.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	19 OVER TGT	

LL-2025-112921-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**LAND USE - LAND DISTURBANCE**
	LODGMENT DATE	30/04/2025
TAHARORA MARAE	DECISION DATE	28/04/2026
REGIONAL	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	28/04/2036
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION	603 KOPUAROA ROAD WAIPIRO	
PROPOSAL	**BUNDLED** Retrospective land disturbance of up to 65m3 on Land Overlay 2 soils and to discharge stormwater from the roof and paved areas to land not to a natural watercourse.	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	24 OVER TGT	

SM-2026-113460-00	APPLICATION TYPE	**SUBDIVISIONS MISCELLANEOUS**
	LODGMENT DATE	29/04/2026
POHO O RAWIRI MARAE COMMITTEE	DECISION DATE	30/04/2026
PLANNING	EXPIRY DATE [IF APPLICABLE]	
	ACTIVITY CLASS	UNKNOWN
LOCATION	CRAWFORD ROAD KAITI	
PROPOSAL	cancellation of amalgamation of Lot 2 DP 5090 and Part Lot 1 DP 4952	
PROCESSING TIMEFRAME	19 UNDER TGT	

Attachment 2

Resource Consents Continuous Improvement Project

Business Solutions

Initial focus/recommendation	Project Status	Notes
Consents Section Strategic Plan	Complete	Three-year strategic plan developed with all consents staff for the period 2023-2025. Review is scheduled for 2026. Continually reviewing focus areas and key initiatives.
Consents Section Operations Plans	Ongoing	Working with relevant staff on development of Operational Plans to focus on the delivery of the key focus areas of our three-year strategic plan. Operational plans have been programmed as a priority for 2026.
Customer Service Model	Complete and Ongoing	Touchpoint model complete and rolled out to staff. Annual recap training sessions each year and standing agenda item at Team meetings.
Develop & Implement Resource Consents Standard Operating Procedures Manual (SOP)	Underway and ongoing	Project is now 95% complete. SOP programme lead, SOP coordinator secondments have ended. Principal Planner and Systems Advisor will now drive the project until completion.
Audit of decisions	Complete	Audit of decisions undertaken and completed by Cooney Lees Morgan. Key findings and learning workshops scheduled to be workshopped with planners late in 2026.

Process audit	Ongoing	Need to put in place random audit programme to review process for all consenting processes. Need to focus on statutory timeframes and recognised good practice standards & principles. Schedule for 2026.
The quality of applications being submitted by Practitioners	Complete & ongoing	Working with forestry applicants in scheduled monthly operational meetings and during pre-application meetings to improve the quality of applications.
Time Tracking and Cost Recovery	Complete	Time tracking through Microsoft Teams implemented with regular reporting. Working with auditors in the finance team around how to get the best results from the system and how the data can best be used to ensure areas for improvements can be identified Staff have agreed an initial performance target of 70% cost recovery which is tracked through this system. Work prioritization ongoing. The entire consents section now completing weekly timesheets.
RICO online decision report system.	Complete	Implementation of the RICO online consenting platform rolled out to internal staff in August 2024. Internal staff first tested the system before it was rolled out to all external contract planners. All decision reports are now being prepared and written in an online portal that has seen a reduction in administrative tasks needing to be completed by planners and reviewers of decision reports. Expected estimated savings of 6 hours per consent. To complete a review of effectiveness of the platform through seeking staff feedback before the end of the 2026 financial year.

Look at different processes to reflect the complexity of the application	Complete	Training of staff on 'proportionality' and extended to contractors. Implemented the s.113 report for smaller scale applications.
Templates	Complete	s.42A, s.113, s.37, s.92 report templates developed and rolled out. Updates made as new legislation is introduced.
Standard Conditions	Complete	The review of standard consent conditions has been undertaken by Principal Planners - District Land Use – Complete - Subdivision – Complete - Forestry – Complete - Land Disturbance – Complete.
Standard Conditions	Underway	The review of standard consent conditions being worked through and led by Principals. - Water Crossings – Planned for 2026 - Water Diversions – Planned for 2026 - Gravel Extraction – Planned for 2026 - Discharges – Planned for 2026
Website improvements	Complete & ongoing	Web page updates completed in 2024/2025. Ongoing minor amendments as required.
Preparation for TechOne roll out	Complete and ongoing	Staff across the section contributing to building the system. Consents regular practitioners will be provided the opportunity to input into the building and refining of external consenting portals.

Interface with external consultants	Complete	The consents external contractors review project is complete. Works included: - Consents Contract and Hearing Advisor has initiated a weekly toolbox meeting with all contractors. - Quarterly and annual performance meetings now in place. - All contracts have now been reviewed and updated with agreed KPI's, Service Level Agreements and monitoring/reporting protocols, and invoicing requirements. - External consultant's planner's handbook developed. - New invoicing requirements rolled out to all external contract planners. - SharePoint folders setup to manage correspondence with all external consultants' planners. - One SharePoint folder setup to manage all templates and information needed as part of processing consents. - Additional Forestry Technical expertise contracted – Rob Daunton. - Interim Civil Engineering support in place through WSP. - Permanent external support required for Civil Engineering Services delayed until contracts and procure team has capacity.
External Decision Makers	Complete	List of external decision makers signed off in May 2026. Decisions will be able to be signed off under delegated authority for consents where there may be an organisational conflict of interest or to support overflow.

Discounts Process	Complete	Discounts may only be approved by the Resource Consents Manager position or higher. Process has been established and was signed off at the Director Level.
Cost Recovery Process	Complete	Assessed and analysed how to increase the cost recovery output. Implemented processes to support a section cost recovery rate of 70%. Re-prioritised workload of staff to enable 70% recovery or higher. • Training staff to operate in a private business model in ongoing. • Historical debt reduced. • Fees and charges review completed, and deposits increased. • Interim invoicing at the 5k mark introduced. • Discounting process in place. • Permitted Activity Notice Process reviewed and now recoverable. • Dashboard and its use in effectively recovery time.
Financial Processes Ongoing	Ongoing	Financial processes continue to be developed with Council's Senior Account. Identification of areas for improvement ongoing.
Financial Processes Complete	Complete	- Section 357b objection to charges processes implemented. - Review of costs/charges processes implemented. - Historical debt processes implemented. - Historical invoicing complete. - Recruitment of consents financial accountant is complete. - Monthly accountant meetings in place. - Customer touch points for costs of consents implemented. - Interim invoicing at the 5k mark implemented.

		- Fees and charges review complete – deposits increased to align with other councils. - Breakdown of charges process implemented. Staff continue being upskilled in Finance SOP's and trained on how to manage financial systems of the organisation. Historical debt has reduced with invoicing.
Twenty Working Days Project	Commenced	This project will focus on the development of guidance and processes to increase our performance in the delivery of consents within 20 working days. Key deliverables of the project include: - Workstream on ensuring comments from across the organisation are received within the required timeframes. - Unblocking issues with the timeliness of external technical comments. - Reviewing all internal guidance. - Working with other sections to develop processes for ensuring resource consent KPI's are met
AI & Chat GPT – Adaptive Consenting Approach	Scoping and exploring	Look to implement to align with the new national direction reform changes in mid-2027.

People and Culture

Initial focus/recommendation	Project status	Notes
Recruiting of vacancies	Hold	Temporary hold in place until we better understand the impacts of the reform.
Salaries that reflect remuneration paid by other councils and government departments	Study complete	The Council's remuneration structure is now competitive with the market and is reviewed annually.
1:1 Team Leader/Staff meetings	Weekly/ Fortnightly Complete	Managers prioritise 30-minute fortnightly 1:1 meetings with their staff – to cover wellbeing, H&S, recognise and congratulate performance and commitment and to raise/work through any issues. Managers prioritise 1-hour fortnightly team meetings with staff to cover issues and operational matters. Resource Consents Leadership Meetings are scheduled weekly for 1 hour. Team charter developed and forms part of the weekly team meetings.
Flexibility of working	Complete	Implemented section flexible working arrangement including the 'Three Way Win' form. - Nine day working fortnight. - Working from home where this does not impact core business. - Agreed days working from home.
Quarterly Section wide meetings	Complete	Quarterly resource consents section wide meetings setup at the beginning of each year and are run by the consents teams to develop and foster leadership skills.
Retention bonuses that reward continuation of service	Exploring	No further progress to date.
Minor rewards like appreciation awards	Complete	Well done awards and certificates acknowledging performance presented at each section meeting.

Performance Recognition	Complete	Regular all team emails recognising performance and a job well done now engrained to workplace culture.
Annual Training Programme	Complete	RMA Training programme planned each financial year to support staff in being technically competent in their roles. The programme is now part of our daily business.
Wellbeing Sessions	Complete	Wellbeing sessions to be rolled out to all consents staff throughout the year. Now engrained as part of operational day to day.
Charter on how staff in different departments work together to meet regulatory timeframes	Ongoing	S.T.A.R projects in its development phase which will correct extensive timeframes by science advice.
Career pathways and succession planning demonstrating what is needed to advance from Graduate to Senior planner	Complete	Implemented the Consents Milestone Progression framework that is utilised by many Councils throughout NZ to progress planners from Graduate to Senior as a retention strategy. Progression is assessed against individuals' development plans.
Emerging leaders' program identifies potential leaders and puts them into early leadership programs.	Complete	Acting opportunities provided where aligned with development plan aspirations. Opportunities provided to individuals to work on projects at a leadership level.
P&C business partner works in the department to show visibility, so staff know who their partner is, and they build trust with the team.	Complete and ongoing	Regular engagement with the people and capability team taking place.
Quality of internal staff's performance through dashboards	Complete	Work programme dashboards setup in Microsoft Teams to capture all cost recovery, resource consent work progress including staff capacity and consents that are on hold. Project planning also established in teams with actions identified and key responsibilities assigned.

Random survey monkey to check on the staff wellbeing and culture within the team	Complete	Annual anonymous surveys to check on the wellbeing of the team and to gather feedback on where improvements can be made. Survey complete in 2024/25. Scheduled again for 2025/2026.

Relationship Management

Initial focus/recommendation	Project status	Notes
Monthly regular meetings established for key external relationships	Complete and Ongoing	Monthly/weekly/quarterly meetings set up with a number of key developers/RMA practitioners. - Monthly catchups with Robbie Mc Cann, - Monthly catchup with CPS. - Weekly catchups with TW Property Group has stalled with the General Manager leaving the organisation. - Monthly catchups with Grant & Cooke Surveyors, - Monthly catchups with Survey Gisborne Limited. - Weekly catch ups with Turanga Tangata Rite. - Monthly catchups with Iconiq Group. - Quarterly meetings with Eastland Wood Council and teams across GDC. - Chamber of Commerce – Practitioners Workshop for Resource Consents, TRW update and Building Consents complete February 2025. - Regular catchup with FICA (Forestry Industry Contractors Association). - Monthly and quarterly meetings with Aratu. - Monthly and quarterly meetings with Ernslaw. - Monthly and quarterly meeting with JNL. - Key account with Ricky Kuru. Continue to increase this portfolio to rebuild trust and rapport of Council's consenting functions in the community.

Quarterly internal regular meetings established.	Complete and Ongoing	- Regular monthly Communications Team Catchups - Regular monthly Maori Engagement & Responsiveness Team Catchups - Regular monthly meetings with Finance and Accountant. - Quarterly Compliance & Monitoring meetings. - Fortnightly Resource Consents Manager/Compliance Manager meetings.
Proactive Relationship Building	Complete and on-going - As required.	Proactively reaching out and providing advice to businesses that require consents prior to lodgement of consents.
Quarterly RMA Newsletter for practitioners	Complete and Ongoing	Quarterly combined planning and building newsletters with good news stories on engagement with applicants, quick tips, new legislation updates and profiles on staff. First newsletter sent out to regular practitioners and key stakeholders in March 2025.
Exploring Consents Stakeholder/Business Relationship Manager Role	Complete	Scoping new position to manage important relationships through a key account management approach, supporting the progression of consents as quickly and effectively as possible, sort roadblocks and delays, be a key connector across the organisation to make business with GDC as easy as possible, upskill and embed with staff understanding of business and their needs and how our work contributes to growth in our economy and communities. Key Account Manager Role filled in February 2025 by Tony Robinson.

Resource Consents Adaptive Consenting Business Model	Scoping	Scoping and considering development of a model similar to Auckland Councils Resource Consents Quality Partnership Programme. The programme is a premium service and collaborative partnership based on understanding an applicant's business needs. A key account manager is assigned and will prioritise the application, work through any issues and ensure regular communication/updates. The programme runs on a 'no surprise' approach.
Lifelines Service Level Agreement	Complete	Service level agreement approach agreed with Director of Lifelines to expedite major infrastructure and community infrastructure consents through the consenting process as quickly and efficiently as possible. Key focus is to reduce delays and financial impacts. Data pulled together on spend over the last financial year and use of external consultant planners in preparing lifelines consents complete. The consents team will being in May 2026 trialling the preparation of consents on behalf of the Lifelines team.

Engagement and Māori Responsiveness

Initial focus/recommendation	Project status	Notes
Resource Management Māori Engagement Advisor	Complete and ongoing.	The newly created Resource Management Māori Engagement Advisor is currently on secondment to the Maori Engagement and Responsiveness Team supporting the TRMP review for 3 years. A dedicated 8 hours per week will continue to be provided to the resource consents team for the duration of the secondment.
Embedding Māori responsiveness, Te Ao Māori, and Te Reo Māori into RC core business practice with early engagement with Hapū and Iwi	Complete and Ongoing	"Tomokia tōku whare" framework established and deployed as a multi-part series with the Consents Section. Our priorities are: - Our People - Our Processes - Resilence Training lunch & learn sessions planned and being rolled out throughout the year.
Executive Summary Process and Cost Recovery process for Iwi/Hapu/Whanau	Complete	Templates for iwi/hapu to comment on resource consents developed and being used by most iwi/hapu in our region. Process to enable iwi/hapu to charge for their time as technical experts in providing assessments on consents implemented for some iwi/hapu. Continuing to setup other iwi/hapu groups.
Papakainga Toolkit	Complete	Papakainga Tool Kit developed to support Maori landowners. Publication printed and information uploaded to the website.

Performance and Contract Management

Initial focus/recommendation	Project status	Notes
Monitoring of consultant performance	Complete	Performance framework created and made part of contracts via variations. Monthly meetings established and quarterly and annual performance meetings in place.
Quarterly reviews of consultants' performance by senior contract managers	Complete and ongoing	First report September 2023. Now standard business practice.
Managing the type of work allocated to consultants	Contract and ongoing	Priority of application types to consent planners as part of their milestone development in conjunction with the milestone development framework. Consents allocated based on experience and skill set.
Use constraints in training and support gaps in knowledge	Complete and Ongoing	Annual training programme rolled out to all planners. Resource Hub has been created as repository of training materials. Principal buddy system implemented. One Team Leader appointed to manage both teams of planners.
Review consultant standard contract	Complete	Review annually with monitoring report every quarter.
External Processing Planners Consultants Review Project	Complete	The External Processing Planners Consultants Review Project is now complete The project focussed on ensuring transparency with applicants, aligning costs with internal planners and ensuring they are following GDC's best practice guidance. Key changes included: - Development of a consultant's handbook. - Use of SharePoint Folders for all templates, guidance and resources. - Changes to invoicing, including that invoices must include a breakdown of all charges and time spent on the application. Invoices for simple consents may only be billed at the end of the consent. All other consents may continue to be billed monthly.

		- Review and update of all of external contracts to cover all new requirements.
External Technical Advisors Consultants Review Project	Ongoing	The External Technical Advisors Consultants Review Project is in progress. The project focuses on ensuring transparency with applicants and ensuring they are following GDC's best practice guidance. Key changes included: - Development of a technical advisor's consultant's handbook. - Use of SharePoint Folders for all templates, guidance and resources. - Changes to invoicing, including that invoices must include a breakdown of all charges and time spent on the application. Invoices for simple consents may only be billed at the end of the consent. All other consents may continue to be billed monthly. Review and update of all of external contracts to cover all new requirements.

Customer

Initial focus/recommendation	Project status	Notes
Review how we manage our customers. Are we meeting our customer charter?	Complete	Customer Touchpoint model, including annual recap for all planners. Duty optimisation project complete
Review the role of the duty planner – consider how to use that role more effectively, including having booked appointments rather than walk-ins and simple customer questions being answered by the front of the staff	Complete	Duty optimisation project complete.
Early communication with customers to outline delays or items that could delay a consent decision	Complete	Touchpoint model implemented.
Reinstate bi-annual meetings with developers and planning professionals.	Complete	Quarterly meeting agreed. To be run by the Chamber of Commerce. First workshops held in February 2025.

Development of Stormwater Guidance	Complete	Stormwater guidance developed with Lifelines for applicants of resource and building consents to reduce non-recoverable enquiries. Stormwater peer review completed. All information has been loaded to the website.
Resource Consents Pamphlets	Complete	All phamplets and guidance updated and loaded to the website to reduce non-recoverable enquiries.
Resource Consent Application Forms	Complete	All forms updated. To be reviewed annually.

Forestry Management

Forestry Consenting Review	Underway	Interviews undertaken with all forestry companies and a number of contractors.
Review of Standard Forestry Consent Conditions	Complete	Conditions updated and amended following extensive industry engagement. Team now turning their focus to processes that need to be implemented following the adoption of the conditions.
Key Account Management	Complete	Monthly operational meetings set up with major forestry companies. Quarterly meetings set up and in place with forestry CEO's.
Enforcement Order Consents	Complete	Plan and processes in place for management of enforcement order consents. - West Ho Slash Catcher EO complete. - China Group Slash Catcher Consent – on hold. - Aratu Te Marunga Slash Catcher consent – on hold. Plan includes how to manage consents in forests that are subject to Enforcement Orders.

Forestry Consenting Strategy	In development	Development of foundational document that will guide the ongoing development and refinement of systems, processes, and resources supporting the forestry consenting portfolio.
NES-CF SOP and guidance	Ongoing	The forestry SOP and guidance notes are in draft and currently being reviewed.
Guidance for volumes of debris to be permitted in relevant land classes	Complete	Guidance developed.
Development of technical advisory forestry specific templates	Ongoing	Review the forestry technical expert, ICM and Science Advisor templates.
Establish a forestry specific central depository	Complete	Ensure consistency in interpretation and application of information. Ensure available and already commissioned information is available to all staff working on forestry across the organisation.
Forestry technical guidance notes.	Ongoing	Draft guidance notes have been developed and are being reviewed by internal staff.
Forestry consenting training programme	Scoping	Development of a planner's specific forestry programme.
Forestry Decision Report Template	Ongoing	Draft forestry specific decision report template is currently being reviewed.
Digital Shapefiles Project	Ongoing	Gather GIS shape files of all consenting forestry consents and create new overlays to allow the team to assess the whole of catchment.