

AGENDA/KAUPAPA



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, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Colin Alder, Andy Cranston, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Ani Pahuru-Huriwai, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Tony Robinson, Rob Telfer, Teddy Thompson, Rhonda Tibble and Nick Tupara

COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA
DATE: Thursday 18 May 2023
TIME: 9:00AM
AT: Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

AGENDA – OPEN SECTION

- 1. Apologies.....3
- 2. Declarations of Interest3
- 3. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes4
 - 3.1. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes 30 March 20234
 - 3.2. Action Sheet 11
- 4. Leave of Absence 11
- 5. Acknowledgements and Tributes..... 11
- 6. Public Input and Petitions 11
- 7. Extraordinary Business..... 11
- 8. Notices of Motion 11
- 9. Adjourned Business..... 11
- 10. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for DECISION 12
 - 10.1. **23-102** A Deliberative Democracy Approach to Tairāwhiti Climate Change Adaptation Planning..... 12
 - 10.2. **23-112** Providing Direction on Developing the National Planning Framework for Council.....21
 - 10.3. **23-106** Local Governance Statement - Local Government Act 2002.....75

11. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for INFORMATION112

11.1. **23-98** 2022 Triennial Elections112

11.2. **23-113** Three Waters Reforms Reset.....150

Council

Chairperson:	Mayor Rehette Stoltz
Deputy Chairperson:	Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga
Membership:	Mayor and all Councillors
Quorum:	Half of the members when the number is even and a majority when the number is uneven
Meeting Frequency:	Six weekly (or as required)

Terms of Reference:

The Council's terms of reference include the following powers which have not been delegated to committees, subcommittees, officers or any other subordinate decision-making body, and any other powers that are not legally able to be delegated:

1. The power to make a rate.
2. The power to make a bylaw.
3. The power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan.
4. The power to adopt a Long Term Plan, Annual Plan, or Annual Report.
5. The power to appoint a Chief Executive.
6. The power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the Long Term Plan or developed for the purpose of the Local Governance Statement.
7. The power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy.
8. Committee Terms of Reference and Delegations for the 2019–2022 Triennium.
9. The power to approve or amend the Council's Standing Orders.
10. The power to approve or amend the Code of Conduct for elected members.
11. The power to appoint and discharge members of Committees.
12. The power to establish a joint committee with another local authority or other public body.
13. The power to make the final decision on a recommendation from the Ombudsman where it is proposed that Council not accept the recommendation.
14. The power to make any resolutions that must be made by a local authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001, including the appointment of an electoral officer.
15. Consider any matters referred to it from any of the Committees.
16. Authorise all expenditure not delegated to staff or other Committees.

Council's terms of reference also includes oversight of the organisation's compliance with health and safety obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.

Note: For 1-7 see clause 32(1) Schedule 7 Local Government Act 2002 and for 8-13 see clauses 15, 27, 30 Schedule 7 of Local Government Act 2002

3.1. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes 30 March 2023

MINUTES

Draft & Unconfirmed



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

MEMBERSHIP: Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Colin Alder, Andy Cranston, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Ani Pahuru-Huriwai, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Tony Robinson, Rob Telfer, Teddy Thompson, Rhonda Tibble and Nick Tupara

MINUTES of the GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA

Held in Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Meeting Room), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne on Thursday 30 March 2023 at 9:00AM.

PRESENT:

Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Colin Alder, Andy Cranston, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Ani Pahuru-Huriwai, Rawinia Parata, Aubrey Ria, Tony Robinson, Rob Telfer, Daniel Thompson, Rhonda Tibble, Nick Tupara, Josh Wharehinga.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Nedine Thatcher Swann, Director Lifelines David Wilson, Director Internal Partnerships James Baty, Director Liveable Communities Michele Frey, Director Engagement & Maori Responsiveness Anita Reedy-Holthausen, Chief Financial Officer Pauline Foreman, Chief of Strategy & Science Jo Noble, Solid Waste Manager Phil Nickerson, Waste Minimisation Lead Charlotte Phelps, Democracy & Support Services Manager Heather Kohn and Committee Secretary Jill Simpson.

Secretarial Note: Crs Pahuru-Huriwai and Parata attended the meeting via audio visual link.

Secretarial Note: Adam Hopkinson, Partner Cooney Lees Morgan attended via audio visual link in relation to the deputation from Mana Taiao Tairāwhiti.

The meeting commenced with a karakia.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cr Parata declared an interest in Report 23-11 as a Trustee of Whakarua Park.

3. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes 26 January 2023

MOVED by Cr Tibble, seconded by Cr Robinson

That the Minutes of 26 January 2023 be accepted.

CARRIED

3.2 Confirmation of Confidential Minutes 26 January 2023

MOVED by Cr Tibble, seconded by Cr Robinson

That the Minutes of 26 January 2023 be accepted.

CARRIED

3.3 Confirmation of Extraordinary Council Minutes 2 March 2023

MOVED by Cr Tibble, seconded by Cr Robinson

That the Minutes of 2 March 2023 be accepted.

CARRIED

3.4 Action Sheet

Noted.

4. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

5. Acknowledgements and Tributes

Her Worship the Mayor acknowledged that the pipeline has been repaired and the water supply is now restored. Rehette thanked David and his team, Nedine, contractors and engineers who have been working non-stop for the last 6 weeks to restore the water supply. Rehette also acknowledged the Civil Defence teams, the people in our district who still need our help and all our partners who worked alongside us during the event.

6. Public Input and Petitions

6.1 Forest & Bird NZ - Managing the Impact of Climate Change

Tom Kay Freshwater Advocate, Geoff Keey Strategic Policy Advisor and Chantal Pagel Regional Conservation Manager, Forest & Bird New Zealand attended and presented on 'Managing the Impact of Climate Change - Nature Based Solutions'.

Response to questions included:

- Land should be restored back to permanent native forest where possible. Some timber will come down the valleys in large weather events however not to the extent we are seeing with slash. The permanent cover reduces the risk of erosion. The Cyclone Bola report indicated that areas of native forest had a lot less damage. The catchments with native forest had lower flows and less likely to cause harm downstream.
- Willows have been the traditional way of managing rivers as they protect the banks from scour, however if you give the corridors more space than the rivers have less energy hence less need for the willows. Greater Wellington Council are starting to use native understory so that the willows can be cut out once the natives grow.

6.2 Manu Caddie & Bridgett Parker attended representing Mana Taiao Tairāwhiti

Response to questions included:

- Homes not affected during Cyclone Bola were damaged during Cyclone Gabrielle.

6.3 Rena Kohere Manager Tairāwhiti Environment Centre

Response to questions included:

- The Environment Centre does not support municipal waste to energy in Tairāwhiti.
- Looking at the organization's aspirations of Oranga Taiao and Oranga Tangata, there is very much a connection between nature and people. Reducing and refusing our waste should always be the first option when looking at how to manage waste across our region. Municipal waste to energy relies on the sustained and future production of waste to fuel those energy plants which goes directly against Mataranga Maori and a community approach to managing waste in the region.

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 DECISION

10.1 23-69 Resource Recovery Centre Study Outcomes

Director Lifelines David Wilson, Solid Waste Manager Phil Nickerson and Waste Minimisation Lead Charlotte Phelps attended. Director Lifelines David Wilson acknowledged Phil and his team for the work involved to get to this stage.

Questions of clarification included:

- The anaerobic digester has been delayed because of shipping challenges as well as site preparation because of Cyclone Gabrielle. Siteworx Civil have the contract for the waste that will come off the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Working with Waste Management regarding the bailer.
- The proposal for the number of sites will be community led.
- Greenwaste separation is a must. There is a need to work with manufacturers regarding packaging. A further report on wheelie bins and waste contracts will be bought to Council later.
- Staff are going through the process of updating the Waste Management & Minimisation Plan 2018-2024.

- Following Cyclone Gabrielle waste sites will be checked to ascertain if they have been impacted. There are no measures in place regarding COVID-19 waste to landfill.
- In the far north, isolated communities have utilised Marae carparks for whanau to drop off recycling. It would involve partnering with the local Marae and arranging for whanau to drop off recycling.
- Part of the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan will be about which initiatives to support within the community. This will be community led which will enable best outcomes.
- Education around littering will be addressed through the Waste Management & Minimisation Plan.
- Looking for Matauranga approach in relation to the education components and using location-based resources is the only effective way when it comes to knowledge sharing with our communities.

MOVED by Cr Gregory, seconded by Cr Foster

That the Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Approves proceeding with Option 2, the development stages of a region-wide resource recovery centre, which includes applying to MfE for funding and revisiting the suggested locations as per Civil Assists Study and their three staged approach.

CARRIED

Secretarial Note: The meeting adjourned at 10.07am for morning team and reconvened at 10.25am.

10.3 23-47 Draft Submission on Three Waters Bills

Yvette Kinsella Special Projects Manager attended.

- Some points raised in Council's submission are also supported in other submissions. Council's submission is about what is best for our community and our region.
- The Bill is not finalised so we are unsure of what functions will remain with Council. A full picture of the impact is not yet known.

MOVED by Cr Ria, seconded by Cr Tupara

1. Endorses the submission to the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee on the Water Services Legislation Bill and Water Services Economic Efficiency and Consumer Protection Bill (as attached in Attachment 1).
2. Instructs the Chief Executive to confirm the submission with the Select Committee as final.

CARRIED

11. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for INFORMATION

11.2 23-62 Report on Recommendations made by Mana Taiao Tairāwhiti

Jo Noble Chief of Strategy & Science attended.

Questions included:

- A strong part of the Mission Statement for Strategy & Science is to make data accessible. How this is done often comes down to resourcing however it is work in progress.

MOVED by Cr Gregory, seconded by Cr Ria

That the Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

11.3 23-11 Chief Executive Activity Report March 2023

Central Government Updates

- The emergency management review is about ensuring that it is nationally supported and locally led and it is enabling in terms of iwi participation at the governance level. The Trifecta Review is positive as it strengthens and enforces the local delivery. A review of the regional response will be undertaken.
- Special legislation following Cyclone Gabrielle will enable timeframes to be extended to no later than September for the Annual Plan to be adopted. Council has been pushing hard to have the Long Term Plan to be a 3 year recovery plan and this will enable activities to be aligned and address the issues and opportunities that have arisen from response debriefs.
- The Waste Strategy announced is looking at standardising the recycling services.
- In relation to the Three Waters Reforms the Prime Minister has signalled a reset and review and an announcement should be coming soon on what that may mean in terms of extensions and timeframes.

Civil Defence Updates

- In relation to The Rural Economy Impact Data, Council is waiting for Trust Tairāwhiti to complete the collation of the survey that was distributed to the business and rural community. A dashboard will also be available showing key metrics around what is happening in the region and what is happening in the recovery space. Staff will follow up with Trust Tairāwhiti to find out the expected date of the survey results.

Relationships

- In relation to Te Kahui Patu Kaikiri all the information has been provided for the audit and a response is expected in May.
- A report will be brought to Council and will provide more information and background around the Joint Management Agreement and the Waiapu Koka Huhua Partnership.

General Management

- TechOne is part of the Enterprise Solutions Project and relates to the People & Capabilities team. It is about creating efficiencies in the way that we do things. Some of the manual processes that are in place now will be automated for example the way we onboard staff. This system should be up and running in July.
- A three-year recovery plan will enable Council to address capacity gaps. In terms of the current situation, the volume of resource consents coming in is not huge and this is because of the emergency situation. We have the ability to reach out to other Councils for support.
- A lot of work around comparing staff numbers and salary budgets was presented to the Audit & Risk Committee when looking at retention strategies and this information can be provided. It would be difficult to compare what happened in 2020 compared to our current budget by just taking into account the line number relating to Employee Benefit Expenses without also looking at the grants and revenue that are coming in which offset some of the costs. In addition to this we have transferred Consultants into our Employee Benefit Expenses. The Freshwater Plan and the Tairāwhiti Resource Management Plan require significant resources.

Council Plans and Policy Updates

- Te Whanau a Kai made an application to the Court of Appeal to have their appeal against the High Court decision heard. The Court of Appeal declined the application.

Focus Projects

- Staff are currently going through the assessment process and the Tender Evaluation Team are meeting shortly with regard to the RFP process for Kiwa Pools aquatic education/learn to swim provider.
- A review has been undertaken of the Waipaoa Flood Protection Scheme following Cyclone Gabrielle and most of the bank held together. The parts that were overtopped were on the old part of the scheme. A whole range of catchments across the district have been flown with LiDAR to ascertain sediment build up and what the effects will be on the river control schemes along with the work that may need to be undertaken moving forward.

Grant Funding

- The Te Arai is a tributary to the Waipaoa River. A decision was made approximately 5 years ago to protect the city side first. Flood control for the Te Arai and other areas across the district will need to be bought back to Council. There are no further works on the Te Arai River as part of the Waipaoa Scheme. It is to be continued on the western side.
- A report regarding reprioritising projects relating to the Better Off Funding will be bought to a future meeting of Council.

MOVED by Cr Wharehinga, seconded by Cr Robinson

That the Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

12. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 11:15 am.

Rehette Stoltz

MAYOR

3.2. Action Sheet

Meeting Date	Item No.	Item	Status	Action Required	Assignee/s	Action Taken	Due Date
02/03/23	9.3	23-37 Health and Safety Governance Charter	In progress	Consideration to be given to cultural safety along with a connection linking back to tikanga and values.	Gene Takurua, Heather Kohn	03/05/2023 Heather Kohn Research underway on how other Councils address safety at Governance level.	05/06/23
30/03/23	11.3	23-11 Chief Executive Activity Report March 2023	In progress	Staff to prepare a report to Council relating to the Joint Management Agreement and the Waiapu Koka Huhua Partnerships and in particular outlining background information.	Michele Frey		05/06/23
30/03/23	13.1	Additional Action Items	Completed	Report 23-11 Chief Executives Activity Report Provide Councillors with a copy of the report presented to Council which looked at staff retention strategies.	Heather Kohn	03/05/2023 Heather Kohn Public Excluded Report 22-24 Strategic Alignment circulated as a PDF 4 May 2023	05/06/23
30/03/23	13.2	Additional Action Items	In progress	Report 23-11 Chief Executive's Activity Report Staff to prepare a report to Council regarding reprioritising projects relating to the Better Off Funding.	Kelly Scott-Haenga		05/06/23

10. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for DECISION



23-102

Title: 23-102 A Deliberative Democracy Approach to Tairāwhiti Climate Change Adaptation Planning

Section: Chief Executive's Office - Strategy

Prepared by: Terrance Loomis (Te Weu Charitable Trust), Sally McIntosh - Senior Climate Change Advisor - Adaptation

Meeting Date: Thursday 18 May 2023

Legal: No

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

Report to COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA for decision

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to describe an applied research project that the Council has commissioned, focused on how communities within the region can be supported to lead their own climate change adaptation and transition planning as well as contribute to ongoing Tairāwhiti regional climate planning.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

Council has commissioned Te Weu Charitable Trust to lead a deliberative democracy initiative that investigates ways of promoting and supporting community involvement in adaptation planning. This project is being called Te Ao Whiriwhiri, Te Ao Hurihuri.

Te Weu has undertaken a literature review that confirmed the importance of residents being actively involved in planning for ways to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change. It noted that deliberative democracy approaches (such as citizen assemblies) have been useful tools for promoting grassroots participation in addressing important civic issues and informing local government policy-making.

After initial discussions with Council staff, a preliminary project plan was developed which has two purposes:

- a) to learn lessons from several local case studies about how communities are recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle and how they are planning to adapt and transition to a more resilient, survivable future; and
- b) to organise a regional deliberative 'citizen assembly' process to come up with recommendations on how the Council, along with private, community and public sector stakeholders, can best facilitate and support communities to develop their own adaptation plans and contribute to the development of regional adaptation plans.

This report sets out the overall design of the project, the six key questions proposed to guide the research, the proposed selection process for case study communities, a snap-shot of the citizen assembly process, potential risks to project success, and the beneficial outcomes the Council can expect from the project. Members of Te Weu will speak to this report and answer questions.

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 Council/Te Kaunihera:

- 1. Notes, in particular, the purpose, design and intended outcomes of the deliberative democracy climate adaptation research project being led by Te Weu Charitable Trust in cooperation with the Council.**
- 2. Agrees to designate representatives to attend the citizen assembly; and**
- 3. Agrees to take account of the recommendations of the assembly in progressing future regional adaptation and transition planning and actions.**

Authorised by:

Joanna Noble - Chief of Strategy & Science

Keywords: Climate change adaptation, deliberative democracy

BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. Scientists warn the climate emergency is worsening. Extreme weather events, fires, droughts and floods are increasing in frequency, as we have witnessed recently in Tairāwhiti. The World Meteorological Organisation estimates we're on course to reach at least 2.8C warming by 2100 based on the current commitments of the world's governments. This would be disastrous for human civilization and the ecosystems we depend upon¹. The UN has called on governments to take *urgent action* to drastically cut emissions and help their societies adapt and change.
2. The New Zealand Government has declared a climate emergency, adopted a national Emissions Reduction Plan and a National Adaptation Plan, and mandated local authorities to work with their communities and central government to confront the crisis.² Under its regional Roadmap 2050, Gisborne District Council has been developing strategies for reducing council and regional emissions, while engaging with key stakeholders around regional transition planning and helping mobilise citizens to engage in community adaptation/transition planning.

A 'Deliberative Democracy' Approach to Climate Adaptation Planning

3. Regional climate adaptation (and transition) planning is complicated by the fact that climate change affects different parts of Tairāwhiti in different ways. Communities, mana whenua and landowners expect not only to be consulted but involved in determining how best to prepare for future impacts in their area.
4. In fact, research shows the success of any climate adaptation plan depends on citizens gaining a realistic understanding of the risks they and their communities face, taking responsibility and embracing new ways of working together locally and with governing bodies. New Zealand has pioneered community-led ways of working. MBIE's Just Transition Unit concluded from their experience that communities, catchment groups and mana whenua must lead the deliberative process, so it incorporates their values and becomes 'their plan' to implement.³ In the end, successful climate adaptation planning necessarily involves building climate-resilient communities.

¹ Renowned experts say the path we're on now will lead to the collapse of global civilisation. E.g. Kanowsky, Hailey, 2023. 'Stanford Scientists Warn Civilization As We Know Will End in the Next Few Decades.' *One Green Planet*. <https://www.onegreenplanet.org/environment/stanford-scientists-warn-civilization-as-we-know-will-end-in-the-next-few-decades/>

² From November 2022, it became a legal requirement for local governments to consider the Government's National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plan when preparing or updating regional policy statements, regional plans, and district plans under the Resource Management Act. Ministry for the Environment, 2022. *National adaptation plan and emissions reduction plan: Resource Management Act 1991 guidance note*. Wellington, Ministry for the Environment. <https://environment.govt.nz/publications/national-adaptation-plan-and-emissions-reduction-plan-resource-management-act-1991-guidance-note/>

³ <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/assets/research-into-partnership-approaches-for-transition-planning-learning-from-the-taranaki-2050-roadmap-process.pdf>

From a local authority perspective, this means shifting from previous consultation approaches to participatory citizen involvement in planning and setting priorities for action. Local governments overseas are increasingly experimenting with 'deliberative democracy' planning exercises in partnership with communities in response to the climate crisis. Recently several councils in Aotearoa/New Zealand have trialed the deliberative democracy approach.⁴ The most recent and most extensively documented was Auckland Watercare's 'citizen assembly' exercise in conjunction with Auckland University's Koi Tū: Centre for Informed Futures. This project attempts to build on these international and New Zealand experiences, while fashioning a process that is appropriate for Tairāwhiti.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

Te Ao Whiriwhiri, Te Ao Hurihuri project

5. Council has engaged Te Weu Charitable Trust to lead a deliberative democracy project to investigate ways of promoting and supporting community, catchment and iwi/hapū involvement in adaptation planning.⁵ Te Weu began by undertaking a literature review and preparing a discussion paper titled *A Deliberative Democracy Approach to Tairāwhiti Climate Adaptation Planning*. That paper identified key design elements and guidelines for trialling a deliberative, community-led approach to adaptation and transition planning.

Purpose

6. The purpose of this project is two-fold:
 - a) To document and garner lessons from several case studies around how communities are recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle and what processes they are employing to plan how they will adapt and transition to a more resilient, survivable future; and
 - b) To organise a deliberative Tairāwhiti 'citizen assembly' to consider expert advice and case study feedback on how GDC in collaboration with private and public sector stakeholders can best facilitate and support communities to develop their own adaptation plans and contribute to the development of regional adaptation plans.

Design

7. Planning for adaptation to climate change and just transition will be an ongoing process in Tairāwhiti. This research project will take place between May 2023 and August 2024. It involves two workstreams: community case studies and a regional citizen assembly. The findings from the community case study research will feed into a later citizen assembly, which in turn will provide recommendations to the Council and other stakeholders on the most effective ways to promote and support citizen participation in local and regional adaptation planning.

⁴ e.g. Ngati Toa and Porirua council's collaborative talanoa-wangana experiment in deliberative community governance in July 2022. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/dominion-post/news/wellington/129295850/ngti-toa-launches-te-tiritibased-citizens-assembly-to-discuss-porirua-issues>

⁵ Which will eventually feed into regional climate adaptation, mitigation and just transition planning.

- 8. Each case study community, rohe or catchment group will be at a slightly different point in the journey of recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle, getting organised and planning how they'll adapt to future climate impacts. *The research project is NOT about helping facilitate this process.* Rather it is about observing, discussing, and gleaning lessons from each community's experience so that these can be shared with other communities and help inform the Council's climate mitigation and adaptation planning.
- 9. Figure 1 (below) provides a graphic picture of the fact finding, analysis and reporting process and how it feeds back to communities themselves as well as into the subsequent citizen assembly.

**Community Adaptation Planning Case Studies:
Research, analysis and reporting process**

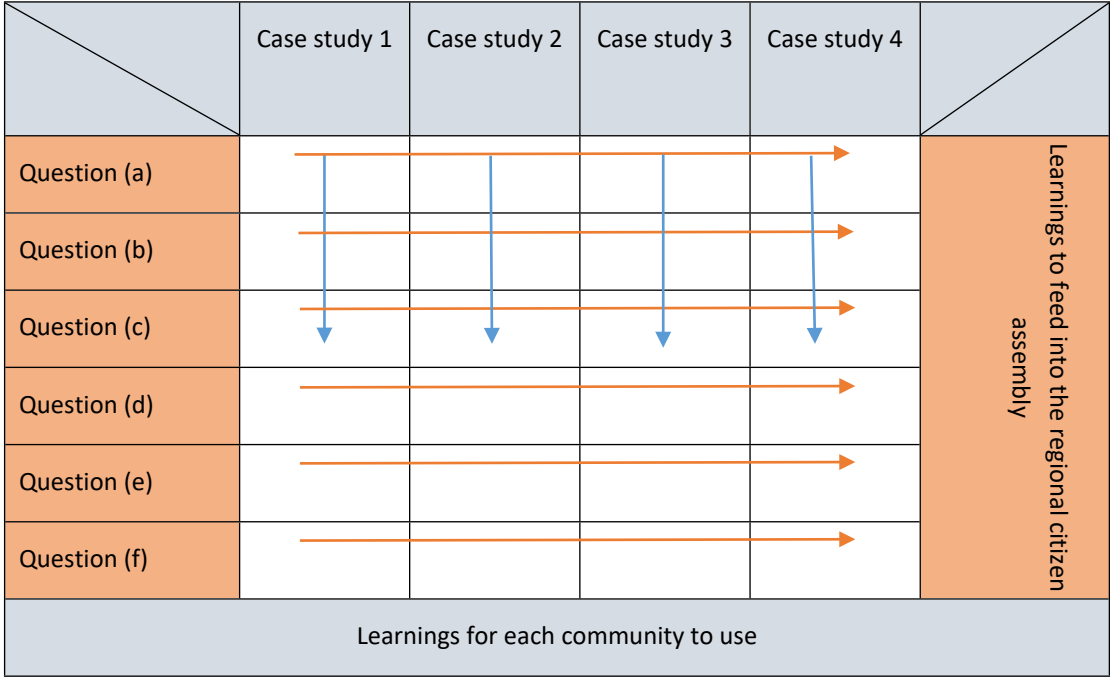


Figure 1

Key research questions

- 10. The applied research will focus on six key questions:
 - a) What are the main barriers to individuals, households/whanau and groups (marae, land blocks, catchment communities, companies) participating in adaptation planning and implementation?
 - b) What works and what doesn't in promoting greater participation and sustaining leaders in adaption planning and action?
 - c) What different approaches to community organising and 'planning' suit different groups with their unique perspectives and needs?

- d) How can government agencies, local council, regional development authorities, sector organisations, iwi entities and businesses improve coordination and communication so communities can get access to the information, skills and resources they need when they need them?
- e) Where do communities get information and assistance in identifying and dealing with the powerful interests that influence their adaptation planning and intended outcomes?
- f) What successes have community advocates had in convincing organisations with influence and public policy decision-making powers to encourage citizen participation and support community-led solutions for effective adaptation?

Community case studies

11. The following criteria will inform the final selection of case study communities:

- Geographic location in relation to the kinds of climate impacts expected and recently experienced (diversity and recovery focus).
- Rural community weighting with forestry/agriculture sector involvement, but also inclusion of an urban population (with different access to resources/support and social connectedness compared to rural communities).
- Communities or catchments prioritised for Council and government agency interventions (coordination and collaboration challenges).
- Communities where adaptation planning and action is already underway and communities where little organised planning has taken place.
- Availability of capable researcher(s) familiar with the community, preferably based in the area.
- Feasibility considerations in light of constraints on project resources (personnel, budget).

12. The following communities are being considered as possible case studies (three or four will be selected at most):

- Muriwai
- Tokomaru
- Gisborne City suburb or community of interest (e.g. individuals and groups in the city with mobility challenges)
- Anaura
- Waipiro
- Makarika
- Tapuaeroa
- Rangitukia

Citizen Assembly

13. The citizen assembly exercise follows the community case studies and builds on Te Weu's literature review. The recommendations from the assembly will feed into the Council's regional adaptation planning. We are exploring the possibility of partnering with the Auckland University Centre for Informed Futures/Koi Tū in organising and facilitating the citizen assembly. The Koi Tū team has done extensive research on participatory democracy and has recently facilitated a citizen assembly in conjunction with Watercare in Auckland. Approximately 40 people were selected by random sampling to participate along with executives from Watercare. The assembly took place over four separate days, during which various experts zoomed in to discuss options and were questioned by participants. They then broke into small groups for deliberation sessions to identify the best options. One discussion group was comprised of mana whenua.
14. The 'focus question' guiding deliberative discussions during the Watercare event was "What should be the next source of water for Auckland, post-2040?" Further discussion is needed, but the focus question for the Tairāwhiti citizen assembly might be: "What actions can GDC take in collaboration with private, community and public sector stakeholders to support community, catchment, and iwi/hapū adaption planning and facilitate greater participation in regional planning processes?"
15. Watercare executives agreed before the Auckland exercise began that the company would take the citizen assembly's recommendations into account when planning for Auckland's future water supply. Reports from citizen assemblies and citizen juries overseas have similarly noted that prior commitment from sponsoring local governments or organisations has been important to achieving a successful outcome.

Project structure

16. Te Weu is fielding a team of community-based researchers and engagement specialists, an analyst, overseen by a project coordinator. The project coordinator and analyst liaise regularly with Council staff.

Results that Council can expect from this project

17. The Council can expect several positive outcomes from this project that will benefit its regional planning efforts to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change:
 - a) More resilient communities – strengthened social capital (increased citizen participation, connected networks, upskilled leadership,) a clearer vision and a practical adaptation pathway; resources where and when they're needed;
 - b) Independent assessment of Civil Defence involvement, official (and unofficial) recovery activities and adaptation initiatives based on learnings from community case studies will obviate the need for a separate evaluation study, saving ratepayers money;
 - c) A more relevant, refined Tairāwhiti regional adaptation plan with wider public buy-in as the result of involvement and input from communities; and
 - d) A transformation in the way Council and agencies work with communities in the medium to long-term (including more community-led initiatives where appropriate) at the result of Council, stakeholders and communities working in a deliberative democracy way around adaptation planning.

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: Low Significance

This Report: 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: Medium Significance

This Report: Low Significance

The effects on individuals or specific communities

Overall Process: Medium Significance

This Report: Medium Significance

The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue

Overall Process: Medium Significance

This Report: Medium Significance

18. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of Low significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
19. The impacts of climate change and how we adapt to them is a significant issue for our communities, particularly in the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle. However, this is a research project to help us facilitate conversations and planning, it will not make adaptation decisions.

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

20. Early engagement between Te Weu and mana whenua representatives in two communities has begun.
21. This project will involve a network of researchers engaging with and documenting the experiences of chosen communities from May 2023 to June 2024. Learnings from these case studies will be analysed and shared back with the communities, as well as providing input to a deliberative democracy regional citizen assembly.
22. Tangata whenua/Māori engagement is an integral part of the project design. Each community will require its own communications and engagement approach. These will be developed following the confirmation of the case study communities.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

23. As above, community engagement is an integral part of the project design. Each community will require its own communications and engagement approach.

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

24. This research project will help Council to consider the climate change impacts for communities and how we can plan for adaptation.

25. There will be some regional travel associated with community engagement.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

26. There are no financial implications, this project has been approved within current budgets. Funding has been provided by the Department of Internal Affairs via the “Better Off package”.

Legal

27. There are no legal implications.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

28. This project is consistent with Council's policies and plans, particularly with the community outcomes of:

- a driven and enabled community;
- resilient communities; and
- we take sustainability seriously.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

29. There are no major risks associated with these matters.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
May – June 2023	Initial community scoping	Establish contacts, background research
July – Nov 2023	Participant observation/research	
Nov – Dec 2023	Mid-way analysis	Report back to Council and communities
May – June 2024	Prepare for Citizen Assembly	

Title: 23-112 Providing Direction on Developing the National Planning Framework for Council

Section: Strategy

Prepared by: Joanna Noble - Chief of Strategy & Science

Meeting Date: Thursday 18 May 2023

Legal: No

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

Report to COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA for decision

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on central government's resource management reform programme and seek early direction on the proposed National Planning Framework.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

Government's resource management reform programme is continuing. The Environment Select Committee is due to report back to the House on 27 June 2023, and the focus of officials is now on implementation of the new system.

A key piece of the architecture is the National Planning Framework (NPF), which will provide national direction on how decision-makers in the new resource management system give effect to the new legislation. The Ministry for the Environment has released a document: *Our future resource management system: Developing the National Planning Framework* that is intended to help local government prepare for the board of inquiry consultation, which will be held later this year.

The document poses a series of questions for local government to consider. Staff have not yet undertaken detailed analysis of the report, and Council has an opportunity to provide direction on the areas it considers to be of most importance and/or relevant to Tairāwhiti.

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 Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Provides direction on how to respond to the National Planning Framework document.

For example:

- a) Which matters are of most importance – where should we focus our efforts?
- b) Any matters of immediate concern
- c) Any matters that require clarification
- d) What is missing?

Authorised by:

Nedine Thatcher Swann - Chief Executive

Keywords: resource management reform, National Planning Framework

BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. The Government's resource management reform programme has been underway since 2019. Council made a submission on the Strategic Planning Bill and Natural and Built Environment Bill on 4 March 2023. Report **23-7** provides an overview of the proposed legislation and key submission points.
2. The Environment Select Committee received numerous submissions on the Bills and is currently scheduled to report back to the House on 27 June 2023.
3. The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) is planning for the next stages of the resource management system reform, anticipating that the Natural and Built Environment Bill and the Spatial Planning Bill will be passed into law before the general election.
4. Soon after the new legislation comes into force, the government will release a draft National Planning Framework (NPF), which will provide more detailed national direction on how decision-makers in the new resource management system will give effect to the new legislation. After that, the NPF will go through a Board of Inquiry process before becoming operative and informing the development of the first Regional Spatial Strategies.
5. MfE has released a document '*Our future resource management system: Developing the National Planning Framework*' to help local government prepare for consultation run by the Board of Inquiry on the first NPF. The document can be accessed [online](#) and is attached to this report (**Attachment 1**).
6. The Board of Inquiry consultation is planned to start in the last quarter of 2023.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

7. The first National Planning Framework (NPF) is equivalent to 'national direction' under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The NPF will provide direction for regional and local decision-making on matters important enough to warrant a nationally coordinated approach.
8. The first NPF will pull together existing national direction into one document, and contain new content on priority topics needed to inform development of the first Regional Spatial Strategies:
 - a. Infrastructure.
 - b. Outstanding natural features and landscapes.
 - c. Cultural heritage.
 - d. Climate change and natural hazards.
9. The NPF will also contain an overarching layer that is intended to provide direction on:
 - decision making – especially te Oranga o te Taiao and managing conflicts between outcomes
 - engagement at the regional and local level
 - monitoring performance of the NPF.

10. Lastly, the first NPF will contain requirements for an initial set of limits and targets that must be set for air, indigenous biodiversity, coastal water, estuaries, fresh water, and soil.
11. The document released by MfE covers the National Planning Framework and Regional Implementation. At the end of each topic, there are a series of questions to help guide discussion and feedback. All the questions are also listed in Appendix 1.
12. **National Planning Framework:**
 - a) NPF overarching layer.
 - b) Direction on conflict resolution.
 - c) National direction under the RMA (1991).
 - d) Climate change mitigation.
 - e) Natural hazards risk management and climate adaptation.
 - f) Environmental limits and targets.
 - g) Infrastructure.
 - h) Outstanding natural features and landscapes.
 - i) Cultural heritage.
 - j) Urban trees.
 - k) Significant biodiversity area criteria.
13. **Regional implementation**
 - l) Transition to the new system.
 - m) Implementing the new system.
 - n) First tranche regions.
 - o) A stronger role for iwi/hapū in the new system.
14. Staff have not yet analysed the document in detail. Before this occurs, Council has an opportunity to provide direction on:
 - a. Which matters are of most importance – where should we focus our efforts?
 - b. Any matters of immediate concern.
 - c. Any matters that require clarification.
 - d. What is missing?

Preliminary comments from staff on the proposed National Planning Framework

15. Although we have not undertaken a detailed analysis, we do have some high-level commentary:

16. **Are we missing an opportunity to transition faster to the new system:** The intention to translate existing national direction into the first NPF without significant change is supported as this allows existing work programmes to continue with certainty. However, the NPF will not apply to plan making and decision-making under the Resource Management Act - this may be a wasted opportunity and will slow down transition to the new system. Especially as development of the first Natural and Built Environment Plans is anticipated to be at least six to seven years away.
17. **A hierarchy of planning outcomes or set of prioritised system outcomes would provide more clarity to decision-makers:** For the framework to be helpful, decision-makers need clarity on which outcomes to prioritise, or alternatively when and how trade-offs should be made. This is essential given this clarity is not provided in the primary legislation. It is not clear that the NPF as described will provide sufficient certainty. A set of prioritised system outcomes (for example, ecological integrity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, natural hazards) alongside a set of good practice principles to assist more granular decisions could provide a robust decision-making framework for Regional Planning Committees and promote an approach whereby where land use change and development occur subject to the health and assimilative capacity of the natural environment.
18. **Te Oranga o te Taiao:** The concept of a healthy environment as a pre-requisite for healthy, thriving communities does not come through strongly in the framework. We need a framework that drives a shift in mindset – one where healthy environment is viewed as an enabler (rather than constraint) of human well-being (in other words, the environment is fundamental to better outcomes for people and improved resilience to the impacts of climate change). The policy direction is also silent on the intrinsic relationship between iwi and hapū and te Taiao – instead, process direction on engagement and maori involvement in plan making will be provided
19. **Capacity and capability building remains a key concern,** especially for tangata whenua: These concerns are reflected in the document, which notes that MfE has started work on potential guidance, training and capacity supports for the new system, which will help local government, iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori to build and sustain capacity to transition to and participate in the new system.
20. **Climate Change mitigation and adaptation should be a priority in the new system,** but the policy framework considers it another outcome to be delivered alongside other outcomes. Priority for mitigation of impacts and adaptation needs to be elevated in the system. However, additional national direction on this matter is welcomed and should also be developed for the current RMA based system.
21. **More stringent limits and targets are supported but they need to be robust and fit for purpose.** For some of the attributes proposed for the first NPF, there are concerns regarding the level of certainty between management actions/interventions and attribute responses, and what the consequences of exceeding a limit may be, including in situations where a council deemed the forces to be outside of its reasonable control.

22. **New systems and architecture for monitoring and reporting will be needed** and this will create additional costs for Council and may create an affordability issue for communities. We already know that our monitoring network is not as sophisticated as some of the more well-resourced councils. A programme of well-articulated tools and guidance documents, developed in advance, would support implementation. Guidance needs to address setting and monitoring limits, especially where data is not currently collected, and how to deal with variability over time, including climate change and extreme events.
23. **There is not any content proposed specific to managing land use to limit discharges of sediment and woody debris.** This is a missed opportunity to provide national direction to complement the existing national standards for plantation forestry and give councils a clear mandate the ability to determine if land is suitable for forestry activities in the first Regional Spatial Strategy.
24. **The importance of urban trees is recognised and there is a new requirement to monitor urban tree-canopy.** Staff have already been considering this matter as part of the Tairāwhiti Plan review. There is a relatively low urban tree canopy cover in the Gisborne urban area.

ASSESSMENT of SIGNIFICANCE - AROTAKENGA o NGĀ HIRANGA

Impacts on Council's delivery of its Financial Strategy and Long Term Plan

Overall Process: Low Significance

This Report: 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: 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

25. The decisions or matters in this report are considered to be of **Low** significance in accordance with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. The Resource Management reform is a topic of significance to communities and mana whenua in Tairāwhiti. Central government has undertaken engagement as it develops the new system.

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

26. One of the objectives for the new resource management system is to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti and provide greater recognition of te ao Māori, including mātauranga Māori.
27. The Ministry for the Environment has been engaging with iwi in relation to implementation of the new system, and their appetite to explore being one of the first tranche regions.
28. MfE held information sessions targeted at iwi, hapū and Māori in Tairāwhiti on 18 April. MfE also hosted a session with Māori practitioners and council staff on the National Planning Framework.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

29. The Ministry for the Environment has invited Tier 1 councils to a session on the NPF on 18 May. The session will offer a high-level overview of NPF. Wider consultation is not planned at this stage, but officials have been engaging with the local government sector through the Local Government steering Group and working groups established by Te Uru Kahika (the regional sector) and Taituarā.
30. A full public consultation and hearings process run by an independent board of inquiry will follow notification of the proposed NPF later this year. The board of inquiry will hear submissions and provide recommendations on the first full NPF proposal. This process will inform final decisions on the first NPF, expected to be made by Cabinet in late 2024.

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

31. “Achieving the reduction of risks arising from, and better resilience of the environment to, natural hazards and the effects of climate change,” “the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions” and “the removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere” are three of the system outcomes listed in section 5 of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill).
32. The document released by MfE contains discussion on climate change mitigation and adaptation. The document states that officials are trying to achieve:
 - Direction in the first National Planning Framework (NPF) that will support regional planning committees (RPCs) in identifying climate change mitigation opportunities within their region.
 - A consistent approach to risk reduction and adaptation to natural hazards and the effects of climate change and providing confidence in the information used by regions.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

33. There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

Legal

34. There are no immediate legal implications arising from the matters discussed in this report.

35. The NBE Bill requires the Minister for the Environment to notify an NPF within six months of the Bill coming into effect. Work on the the NPF is being progressed to meet this timeframe. If the Bill changes, MfE will have to make sure the draft NPF reflects these changes.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

36. The first NPF needs to be in place in time to inform the development of Regional Spatial Strategies by an initial group of regions.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

37. there are no major risks associated with the decisions or matters discussed in this report.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
27 June 2023	Environment Select Committee reports to the House	
September 2023	Legislation enacted	Government intends to pass the legislation before the 2023 General Election
Late 2023	Consultation on a draft National Planning Framework	Board of Inquiry process

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - Our Future Resource Management System - Developing the National Planning Framework [23-112.1 - 46 pages]

Te pūnaha whakahaere rauemi o anamata

Te Whakawhanake i te Anga Mahere ā-Motu

Our future resource management system

Developing the National Planning Framework



Disclaimer

The information in this publication is, according to the Ministry for the Environment's best efforts, accurate at the time of publication. The Ministry will make every reasonable effort to keep it current and accurate. However, users of this publication are advised that:

- the information does not alter the laws of New Zealand, other official guidelines, or requirements
- it does not constitute legal advice, and users should take specific advice from qualified professionals before taking any action based on information in this publication
- the Ministry does not accept any responsibility or liability whatsoever whether in contract, tort, equity, or otherwise for any action taken as a result of reading, or reliance placed on this publication because of having read any part, or all, of the information in this publication or for any error, or inadequacy, deficiency, flaw in, or omission from the information in this publication
- all references to websites, organisations, or people not within the Ministry are for convenience only and should not be taken as endorsement of those websites or information contained in those websites nor of organisations or people referred to.

This document may be cited as *Our future resource management system: Developing the National Planning Framework*. Wellington: Ministry for the Environment.

Published in April 2023 by the
Ministry for the Environment
Manatū Mō Te Taiao
PO Box 10362, Wellington 6143, New Zealand

ISBN: 978-1-991077-47-9
Publication number: ME 1759

© Crown copyright New Zealand 2023

This document is available on the Ministry for the Environment website: environment.govt.nz.

Contents

Foreword	5
Part one: Introduction	8
Developing the National Planning Framework	9
Working with local government on the resource management reforms	10
Part two: Topics for discussion	13
National Planning Framework	14
Regional implementation	39
Appendix 1: Questions for discussion	43
Appendix 2: Glossary of terms	45
Appendix 3: Resource management system reform key documents	46

Tables

Table 1:	National Planning Framework overarching layer	20
Table 2:	Direction on key considerations for regional planning committees	22
Table 3:	General changes suggested to align RMA national direction with the new RM system	24
Table 4:	Changes to existing national direction instruments	25
Table 5:	NPF direction that supports regional planning committees	27
Table 6:	Risk Assessment Framework	28
Table 7:	Attributes of mandatory matters for environmental limits	29
Table 8:	Framework outcomes and supporting policies for infrastructure	32
Table 9:	Framework for outstanding natural features and landscapes	34
Table 10:	Framework for cultural heritage	36
Table 11:	Direction on urban trees	38
Table 12:	Significant Natural Areas Criteria	38

Figures

Figure 1:	Key components of the future resource management system	8
Figure 2:	RM system transition and implementation timeline	40

Foreword

Tēnā koutou katoa

Our thoughts continue to be with all communities in areas affected by Cyclone Gabrielle and other severe weather events in recent months. We are very aware of the significant recovery work ahead and our focus is on supporting councils and communities with building Aotearoa New Zealand's resilience to future events.

The Ministry is currently assisting with the broader government response in a number of ways, including options for support in the immediate and longer term to assist the recovery. We also want to signal that we have work underway across our programmes to look at what we can do to support the recovery.

We are planning for the next stages of the resource management system reform, anticipating the Natural and Built Environment Bill and the Spatial Planning Bill to be passed in mid-2023.

Soon after the new legislation comes into force the Government will release a draft National Planning Framework (NPF), which will provide more detailed national direction on how decision-makers in the new resource management system will give effect to the new legislation. The intention is that this comes into effect in early 2025.

The NPF will comprise a single, cohesive and coherent body of national regulation to direct regional planning committees to prepare regional spatial strategies and Natural and Built Environment plans and local authorities to undertake consenting in the new resource management system.

Resource management reforms will play an instrumental role in planning for natural hazards. The NPF will provide national direction on risk reduction and resilience to natural hazards and the effects of climate change. The NPF will guide regions on how to undertake risk assessments, respond to, and prepare for future hazard and climate events, supporting consistency across the country.

The first NPF is intended to provide high-level direction for regional planning committees to support strategic direction and identification of natural hazards at the regional level and consideration of strategic opportunities to improve resilience.

The information in this document will help you prepare for the board of inquiry consultation later this year on the first NPF.

Our future resource management system: Developing the National Planning Framework

I look forward to working with you on developing the new resource management system.

Ngā mihi nui

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sam Buckle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Buckle

Deputy Secretary, Waste and Resource Efficiency, Water and Land Use Policy

Wāhanga tuatahi

Tīmatanga kōrero

Part one

Introduction



Part one: Introduction

The new resource management system represents a new way of thinking that seeks a shared vision and focuses on a shared aspiration to protect and restore te taiao and improve the wellbeing of people across Aotearoa New Zealand.

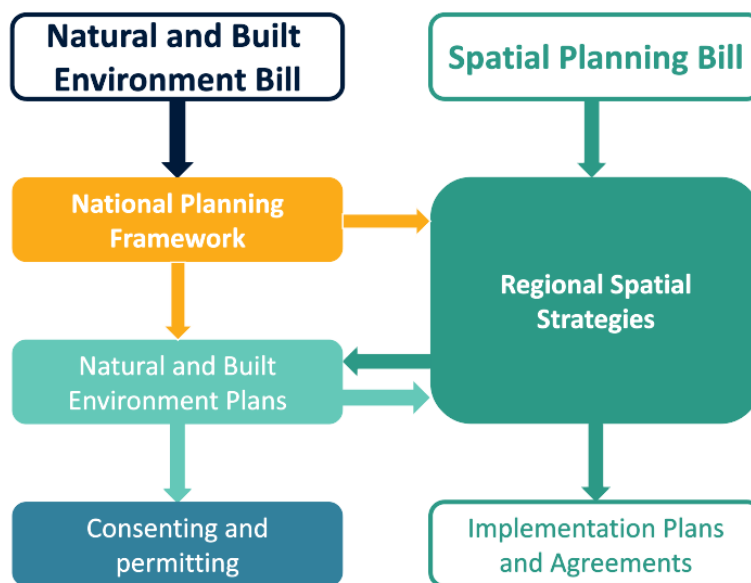
Three new pieces of legislation will replace the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). They are the:

- Natural and Built Environment Act (NBE Act), the main replacement for the RMA, to protect and restore the environment while better enabling development
- Spatial Planning Act (SPA), which requires the development of regional spatial strategies (RSSs) and implementation plans, to help coordinate and integrate long term-strategic decisions in each region
- Climate Adaptation Act (CAA), to address complex issues associated with managed retreat.

The [Natural and Built Environment Bill](#) (NBE Bill) and [Spatial Planning Bill](#) (SP Bill) were introduced to Parliament on 22 November 2022. The Environment Committee is currently considering them through the select committee process and we are planning for them to be passed in mid-2023. We will adjust our plans accordingly to reflect the new legislation.

These Bills establish the framework for a new system as outlined in figure 1.

Figure 1: Key components of the future resource management system



The Climate Adaptation Bill is likely to be introduced to Parliament in 2023 and enacted the following year.

More information on our future resource management system

When the NBE and the SP Bills were introduced into Parliament in November 2022, the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) published *Our Future Resource Management System: Overview*.

This document sets out the key components of the new resource management system as proposed in these Bills. It was designed to provide a high-level overview of the new system to help people as they submitted on the legislation. We haven't repeated this information in this document. We encourage you to read the other document to better understand the resource management reform context.

Developing the National Planning Framework

In anticipation of the Bills being passed in mid-2023, we are planning the next stages of reform and will adjust our plans to reflect the final legislation. This includes planning for the transition to the new system and developing the National Planning Framework (NPF), as well as information on the regional implementation of the proposed new system.

Part two of this document provides detailed information on these topics, including a series of questions to guide your discussion. We welcome your input into how these proposals should be shaped. In summary:

- **The NPF** is secondary legislation under the NBE Act and will act as the link between the primary legislation and regional decision making. It consolidates national environment policy statements, planning standards and regulations into one coherent planning framework that directs how regions plan for growth and manages the natural environment and development.
- The NPF will provide central government direction for regional planning and support the development of regional spatial strategies (RSSs) and natural and built environment plans (NBE plans). It will also be required to give effect to the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi and uphold te Oranga o te Taiao. We are aiming to notify the NPF later in 2023 before it will need to undertake a statutory Board of Inquiry process that will provide further opportunity for input from the community and Treaty partners.
- **Environmental limits and targets form part of the NPF** – Setting environmental limits and targets to prevent further ecological degradation and improve environmental targets is a key feature of the new resource management system. We also need to ensure that limits and targets reflect mātauranga Māori and te ao Māori perspectives.

- In anticipation of the passing into law of the NBE Bill and SP Bill, we are starting to plan for the **regional implementation** of the new resource management system. This includes establishing regional planning committees to develop the new RSSs and NBE plans.

Local government will be important delivery partners in the new resource management system. We will outline some initiatives that are designed to support and enable implementation of the new system at a regional level.

Working with local government on the resource management reforms

We appreciate the willingness of local government and sector stakeholders to work with us to help shape the new resource management legislation.

Many of you may have previously attended meetings on the proposed resource management system. We would like to thank local government leaders and planners for the feedback that informed the policy thinking and tested policy options, thus helping shape ministerial decisions, directly leading to the policy decisions that enabled the introduction of the NBE and SP Bills. The input of the Local Government Steering Group has been particularly important as we have worked through policy options, and we are continuing to work with the steering group.

We appreciate your commitment and value the perspectives you provide and look forward to having more opportunities to discuss these proposals with you prior to notifying the NPF.

Bringing us closer together

We recognise the amount of environmental reform underway and are committed to improving how we engage at the local and regional levels. To support this, the Ministry has just established a new regional partnerships team that will change how we engage with local authorities, and with iwi and Māori regionally.

By creating better partnerships, the team will ensure that:

- we listen to you, our policies consider differences between regions, and initiatives are implemented as well as they can be
- we are joined up as a Ministry and you know who you are engaging with, about what and when
- our partners are supported with increased capacity locally.

Our approach includes three key areas of focus:

1. creating more effective mechanisms to support pan-iwi national-implementation relationships
2. establishing mechanisms to develop stronger, enduring relationships at place
3. supporting an uplift in iwi environmental capacity to engage with the Ministry.

This is about having consistent relationships in the regions so we can better understand your aspirations and how we can better work alongside you. The new team will include new kaiwhakatere (regional navigators) enabling us to tailor our engagement to each region's needs.

Wāhanga tuarua

Ngā Kaupapa kōrerorero

Part two

Topics for discussion



Part two: Topics for discussion

This section covers the following topics:

- National Planning Framework
 - NPF overarching layer
 - Direction on conflict resolution
 - National direction under the RMA (1991)
 - Climate change mitigation
 - Natural hazards risk management and climate adaptation
 - Environmental limits and targets
 - Infrastructure
 - Outstanding natural features and landscapes
 - Cultural heritage
 - Urban trees
 - Significant biodiversity area criteria
- Regional implementation
 - Transition to the new system
 - Implementing the new system
 - First tranche regions
 - A stronger role for iwi/hapū in the new system

At the end of each topic, there are a series of questions to help guide discussion and feedback.

National Planning Framework

A key element of the new system is the National Planning Framework (NPF), which is the new system's equivalent to 'national direction' under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The NPF will provide direction for regional and local decision making on matters important enough to warrant a nationally coordinated approach.

The NPF will be secondary legislation under the Natural and Built Environment Act (NBE Act) and will act as the link between the primary legislation and regional decision making. The NPF will provide central government direction for regional planning and support the development of regional spatial strategies (RSSs) and natural and built environment plans (NBE plans) described below.

The Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) contains requirements that relate to the NPF, including:

- supporting the purpose of the NBE Act to enable the use, development and protection of the environment and recognise and uphold te Oranga o te Taiao (clauses 3 and 33)
- giving effect to the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi (clause 4)
- providing for a range of natural and built system outcomes (clause 5)
- being made in a way that reflects the decision-making principles (clause 6)
- setting environmental limits and targets (clauses 38 and 49).

Please refer to Part 3 and Schedule 6 of the NBE Bill, which contain most of the provisions about the contents and process for developing the NPF.

We have learnt from the experiences of the current national direction under the RMA that we need to provide a coherent and consistent set of national direction that will provide investment certainty. Currently, under the RMA, national direction is provided across more than 20 different national policy statements, national environmental standards, national planning standards and regulations. These documents and their functions will be consolidated into a single NPF, contributing to a more integrated set of central government direction to inform how we use, protect, and manage our natural and built environments. Existing national direction that is fit for purpose will be rolled over into the NPF.

Bringing all of this national direction together in one place also provides an opportunity for the NPF to have 'overarching' or 'cross-cutting' direction that will sit across the suite of topic-specific direction.

Why are we developing the National Planning Framework now?

The NBE Bill requires the Minister for the Environment to notify an NPF within six months of the Bill coming into effect. The first NPF is one step in the transition to a new system and will need to be in place in time to inform the development of RSSs by an initial group of regions. Work on the shape of the NPF is underway now to meet this timeframe. We are progressing on the basis of the NBE Bill as it was when it was introduced to Parliament. However, we acknowledge that if the Bill changes, we will have to make sure the NPF is aligned with these changes.

We are seeking your input to inform the development of the first NPF proposals. This document provides a summary of our initial thinking on the scope of the first NPF. Further detail on specific aspects can be provided through this engagement process, if required.

A full public consultation and hearings process run by an independent board of inquiry will follow notification. This will provide further opportunity to have input into the development of the first NPF. The board of inquiry will hear submissions and provide recommendations on the first full NPF proposal. This process will inform final decisions on the first NPF, expected to be made by Cabinet in late 2024.

How will transition to the new system work?

We anticipate that the transition period until NBE plans are operative will be 7 to 10 years. During this time, national direction created under the RMA will remain in force and continue to direct transitional decision making. The NPF will not have legal effect on decisions made under RMA plans and policy statements during this time. The NPF will provide direction for the development of RSSs and NBE plans.

The NPF will be delivered in stages, with the first NPF scheduled for notification in 2023. This will have a tightly defined scope, prioritising direction needed for RSSs. More detailed direction to inform the development of NBE plans will be provided in future amendments to the NPF.

RSSs will be rolled out in tranches and the development of NBE plans would follow in the four years after a region finalises its RSS. The new resource management system would not be fully in effect in a region until the first NBE plan in that region is in effect.

During the transition period:

- the RMA national direction will remain in force, to continue directing transitional decision making
- powers under the RMA to develop and amend RMA national direction will remain in force

- the NPF will not have legal effect on decisions made under RMA plans and policy statements; the NPF will focus on the development of RSSs and NBE plans.

The Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) is in the early stages of considering the content and timing of future NPF amendments, and these will be subject to further ministerial decisions. The Ministry will publish a roadmap of future NPF amendments, to provide a clear signal as to what is coming next in the NPF. This will include additional detailed direction to inform NBE plans.

We welcome your input on additions to the NPF as even though they may not be ready in time for inclusion in the first NPF, they will be factored into the second.

Regional spatial strategies to be consistent with the National Planning Framework

RSSs are required to be consistent with the NPF, but the NPF will not provide comprehensive requirements for what RSSs must do for all domains. This is because:

- RSSs will not regulate or provide all direction needed for regulation in, NBE plans, as they will not comprehensively cover all land use in a region.
- how directive RSSs will be will vary across issues – they will not have direct regulatory effect
- while an RSS will align with regional boundaries, it is not expected to provide strategic direction for all that region. It only needs to address the places where change is:
 - unavoidable and there needs to be coordinated effort to ensure good outcomes
 - desirable, to improve outcomes for the community or environment, and multiple parties need to be involved.

Tiriti o Waitangi settlements

The NBE Bill requires that Tiriti settlements must be given the same or equivalent effect as under the RMA (Schedule 2, clause 3). There are over 70 Tiriti settlements, along with the Ngā Rohe Moana o Ngā Hapū o Ngāti Pōrou Act 2019, and Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 arrangements that interface with the RMA.

Any changes to the planning system, including NPF content, may have implications for Tiriti settlements. We need to ensure these Tiriti settlement agreements are honoured, and their effects are retained in the new system.

First National Planning Framework – suggested approach

The first iteration of the NPF will focus on bringing together existing RMA national direction alongside new direction to fill key gaps in the resource management system. This new direction will primarily be focused on what is needed to inform the development of RSSs.

We are considering whether the first NPF could include the following components:

- integrating the policy intent of all existing RMA national direction into a consistent regulatory framework and updating specific elements in those instruments to reflect key changes to the resource management system in the Bills. This will be the majority of the content of the first NPF.
- an overarching layer that provides direction that applies across the NPF, including on decision making, how to resolve competing outcomes and other conflicts, engagement at the regional and local level, and monitoring the NPF.
- new national direction to provide for system outcomes in the NBE Bill not covered by existing RMA national direction:
 - new direction on infrastructure, that will include infrastructure standards
 - protection or restoration of outstanding natural features and landscapes
 - conservation of cultural heritage
 - recognition of, and making provision for, the relationship of iwi and hapū and the exercise of their kawa, tikanga (including kaitiakitanga) and mātauranga in relation to their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, wāhi tūpuna and other taonga
 - protection of Takutai Moana protected customary rights and recognition of statutory acknowledgements
 - reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and removal of these gases from the atmosphere
 - risk reduction and resilience to the effects of natural hazards and climate change.
- requirements and surrounding policy for an initial set of limits and targets. These must be set for six mandatory matters (air, indigenous biodiversity, coastal water, estuaries, fresh water and soil).

Indicative structure of the first National Planning Framework

Chapters	National Planning Framework (NPF) content
Preliminary provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commencement • Interpretation, including consolidation of definitions across the NPF
Overarching layer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction on the approach to decision making under Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill), particularly direction on te Oranga o te Taiao and managing conflicts between outcomes • Direction on processes for engaging with the community and Māori • Direction on monitoring the performance of the NPF
Domain chapters	<p>Each domain chapter to contain (if needed):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • outcomes • policies • implementing outcomes and policies • limits and targets • rules <p>monitoring requirements.</p>
Freshwater	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) • National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F) • Stock-exclusion regulations (under Resource Management Act 1991 [RMA], section 360) • National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water (NES-DW)
Urban development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy Statement for Urban Development (NPS-UD) • Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021 – includes medium density residential standards
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New infrastructure direction providing outcomes and RSS direction • New infrastructure standards • National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities (NES-TF) • National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission (NPS-ET) • National Environmental Standards for Electricity Transmission (NES-ET) • National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (NPS-REG)
Coastal and marine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) • National Environmental Standards for Marine Aquaculture (NES-MA) • Marine-pollution regulations (under RMA, section 360)
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB) • Exemption regulations (under RMA, section 360)
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Environmental Standards for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil (NES-CS)

Chapters	National Planning Framework (NPF) content
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Environmental Standards for Storing Tyres Outdoors (NES-Tyres)
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Environmental Standards for Air Quality (NES-AQ) (in part)
Climate change and natural hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of other national direction (eg, NZCPS [policies 24, 25, 26 and 27], NPS-UD [policies 1 and 6], NPS-FM [policy 4], NPS-ET [policy 1], NPS-REG) National Policy Statement/National Environmental Standards on industrial-process heat (greenhouse gas emissions) Other new climate mitigation and natural hazard direction
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of NZCPS (policy 17) and NPS-UD New high-level direction on cultural heritage
Outstanding natural features and landscapes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of NZCPS (Policy 15) New high-level direction on outstanding natural features and landscapes
Rural areas and highly productive land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land (NPS-HPL)
Plan processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National planning standards Updated zone framework and mapping standards RSS template

NPF overarching layer

The NPF is intended to be a more integrated and consistent framework than the separate instruments currently prepared under the RMA. There are likely to be topic-specific chapters of the NPF, as shown in the structure in the table above. We think there is value in including a chapter that sits across these topics for broad system direction, to help integrate and provide consistent direction across the NPF. We are calling this the ‘overarching layer.’

We consider the three priority areas for the overarching layer in the first NPF could be:

- further direction on the approach to decision making under the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill), particularly, direction on te Oranga o te Taiao and managing conflicts between outcomes.
- processes for engaging with Māori and the community, recognising that specifying a ‘one-size-fits-all’ approach to managing natural resources and working with local communities is likely to be inappropriate
- monitoring the performance of the NPF.

The NBE Bill includes a clause that requires that all persons exercising powers and performing functions and duties under the Bill, if enacted, must give effect to the principles of te Tiriti. This has implications for both the process to develop and the substance of the NPF and regional planning documents (RSSs and NBE plans).

NPF direction to regional planning committees on Māori involvement in plan development is intended to ensure good process is followed by these committees, while still allowing for regional flexibility.

Table 1: National Planning Framework overarching layer

Component of overarching layer	
Decision making	
Applying the purpose and the key Natural and Built Environment Act (NBE Act) provisions to the National Planning Framework (NPF)	<p>Our initial view is that direction is needed to support the intended approach to decision making under the NBE Act (see Part 1 of the Natural and Built Environment Bill [NBE Bill]). This would support the shift to an 'outcomes-based' system and help ensure te Oranga o te Taiao is upheld at the regional level. Direction could include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear prioritisation of achieving limits and targets as part of regional planning processes • how to apply an outcomes-based approach to planning, including a focus on achieving benefits for multiple outcomes • how to manage conflicts between outcomes throughout the system (see further information) • stating that regional planning committees (RPCs) have an obligation to protect protected customary rights and recognise any relevant statutory acknowledgements, and perhaps require RPC to identify and collate these in their region.
Limits and targets implementation	<p>Requirements for environmental limits and targets will form part of the domain chapters of the NPF and attributes will be listed in a technical appendix (like the approach taken in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management). In addition, direction is needed on how to set management units, including integration across the domains for which environmental limits and targets must be set. There may also be other general process direction that applies to setting limits and targets that could sit in the overarching layer.</p>
Cross-cutting concepts	<p>Cross-cutting issues that are addressed in many pieces of national direction should be consolidated in the overarching layer of the NPF, to avoid unnecessary variation and duplication. One example is requirements for 'integrated management', which are described differently in different pieces of national direction. Another is the time horizon needed for planning decisions, including the long-term planning needed for climate-related issues (currently only addressed in the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, but with wider relevance).</p>

Component of overarching layer	
Engagement	
Māori involvement	<p>The NBE Bill requires the NPF to provide direction on all ‘system outcomes’. Our initial thinking is that direction on the relationship of iwi and hapū and their taonga (see clause 5(e) of the NBE Bill) is best addressed through procedural direction that ensures Māori values and interests inform decision making at the regional and local levels. It is inappropriate to establish a one-size-fits-all approach to this outcome at the national level, but the NPF should support this outcome to be provided for within each region.</p> <p>The NBE Bill establishes Māori representation on RPC and includes provision for engagement agreements, Mana Whakahono ā Rohe, joint management agreements, local government Māori participation policies, and a register of Māori groups with relevant interests.</p> <p>The Spatial Planning Act (SPA) provides for engagement agreements as a mechanism for an RPC and Māori groups with interests in the region to agree how the groups are to participate in preparing a regional spatial strategy.</p> <p>The NPF can assist in ensuring these provisions work as intended and are implemented efficiently by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing additional process direction for local government and RPC, perhaps to determine which Māori groups they will engage with and how • specifying a nationally consistent set of matters that must be discussed with Māori • providing a consistent approach to Māori involvement in plan making across multiple domains in the NPF.
Community engagement in target setting processes	Limits and targets will be set through natural and built environment plans. However, there may be a need for additional process direction for RPCs to set targets for listed attributes based on community aspirations and values.
Monitoring	
Monitoring system performance	<p>The NBE Bill requires the NPF to state how its effectiveness and implementation will be monitored (see clause 56(2) of the NBE Bill). The NBE Bill also requires the NPF to require the monitoring and reporting of environmental limits and targets, including enabling aggregation of data at the national level and Māori involvement in monitoring (see clause 53 of the NBE Bill).</p> <p>The overarching layer could therefore include indicators and a method for monitoring implementation of the NPF, including its contribution to NBE Act outcomes, and the implementation of limits and targets. We will need to consider how this aligns with monitoring and evaluation requirements in existing Resource Management Act 1991 national direction.</p>

Direction on conflict resolution

A key role for the NPF is “helping to resolve conflicts about environmental matters, including conflicts between resource management system outcomes” ([clause 33 of the NBE Bill](#)). For example, the need to provide infrastructure may conflict with the need to protect outstanding landscapes. The NPF cannot resolve all conflicts and these need

to be managed and considered at all levels of the new system, including in the NPF, RSSs and NBE plans.

In the NPF, we anticipate that there will be content that assists decision makers in addressing conflicts in both the overarching layer and domain-based content. The overarching layer could provide direction on principles or requirements to support good decision making, while content in domain-based chapters will provide direction on specific conflicts. We are still considering several options for this direction. The NBE Bill is still under consideration, and we will need to ensure that any direction in the NPF aligns with the NBE Act.

Table 2 provides an indication of the direction the NPF could provide to regional planning committees requiring a specific set of matters to be considered.

Table 2: Direction on key considerations for regional planning committees

Direction on key considerations for regional planning committees
Prioritise measures to achieve environmental limits and targets
Use spatial planning, via regional spatial strategies (RSSs) and zoning/other identification (eg, overlays) in natural and built environment plans (NBE plans), to prioritise different outcomes in different locations, according to their relevance and the extent of their benefits
To the extent practicable, provide direction on how foreseeable conflicts between environmental outcomes within the region are managed in RSSs and NBE plans, rather than leaving decision making to resource consents
To the extent practicable, promote outcomes for the benefit of the natural environment alongside measures that promote development (ie, achieving co-benefits)
Ensure any relevant national interests are considered
Where multiple outcomes have been identified as relevant, seek to achieve these outcomes through one or more of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • managing the adverse environmental effects of activities • setting requirements for environmental offsetting and redress • using environmental contributions and other economic instruments • setting other conditions or requirements that developments must meet • funding and investing through RSS implementation plans and local government funding processes that recognises co-benefits.
In general, avoid use and development of resources if this will compromise significant natural and cultural values, or create significant risks to life or property, unless a development need is critical for the wellbeing of people and communities and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • there is a functional or operational need for it to locate there • an appropriate assessment of alternatives has been completed • the benefits of development outweigh the costs • adverse environmental effects have been managed to the extent practicable.

Questions for discussion

1. Do you have any feedback on the suggested approach to decision making and conflict resolution?
2. Do you have any feedback on the suggested direction on engagement?
3. Do you have any feedback on the suggested approach to monitoring?

National direction under the RMA (1991)

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), there are several national direction instruments currently in effect. This is substantial direction reflecting many years of policy development under the RMA. The Government is in the process of developing some RMA national direction. All the RMA direction that is in effect in time to be redrafted into the first National Planning Framework (NPF) will be included in the first NPF. This direction will make up most of the content of the first NPF.

The Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) requires that the first NPF is prepared on the basis of the national direction set by the RMA. It also requires both Minister for the Environment and the board of inquiry to take into account maintaining consistency with the policy intent of RMA national direction to the extent that it is compatible with the NBE Bill.¹

The policy intent of RMA national direction will therefore be carried across into the NPF. We will need to make sure it aligns with the new resource management system, but the NBE Bill provides a clear direction to retain the policy intent where possible. This is intended to support a smooth transition, by assuring councils that much of the work they do under the RMA over the coming few years does not go to waste and can be transitioned into the new system.

However, RMA national direction will require some redrafting to ensure it aligns with the new system. Table 3 highlights some of the general ways in which national direction needs to change to align with the new system.

In some cases, such as the National Policy Statement on Freshwater Management, existing national direction includes policy content that has been developed through extensive engagement with partners and stakeholders. This includes the development of the concept of te Mana o te Wai. The intention is to ensure this existing policy is carried over into the new system in a way that is true to its original intent.

¹ Refer to [Schedule 6, clause 31\(e\) of the NBE Bill](#).

Table 3: General changes suggested to align RMA national direction with the new RM system

Matter	Comment on approach in the National Planning Framework (NPF)
'Objectives' become 'outcomes'	'Objectives' in existing national direction will become 'outcomes,' and for some existing national direction (eg, national environmental standards) an NPF outcome statement may be included to clarify the general intent of the national direction.
Effects management framework	The effects management framework and general duty in the NBE Bill (avoid, minimise, remedy, offset, provide redress) is different to under the RMA (avoid, remedy mitigate). Each use of 'avoid, remedy, mitigate' in existing national direction will need careful consideration to test whether it should be updated to reflect the new effects management framework to ensure the NPF and the NBE Bill are aligned.
Roles and responsibilities	<p>Where national direction assigns a role to a particular party, such as regional councils, these provisions may need to be reconsidered for the new system. It will be appropriate for some functions to remain with regional councils and territorial authorities. These are more likely to be, for example, consenting activities, while others may be appropriate to shift to regional planning committees (RPCs).</p> <p>Where a matter must be given effect to or considered through the regional spatial strategy (RSS) or Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) planning processes, those responsibilities should shift to RPCs.</p>
Give effect to the principles of te Tiriti	<p>The NBE Bill has the legal weight of "give effect to" the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi, compared to section 8 of the RMA, which requires all persons exercising functions and powers under it to "take into account" the principles of te Tiriti.</p> <p>Consideration needs to be given to whether any amendments are required through the redrafting process.</p>
Activity statuses in the new consenting regime	<p>There will no longer be 'restricted discretionary' or 'non-complying' activity statuses in the new system, which are referred to in several national direction instruments. And the definitions of remaining activity statuses have shifted.</p> <p>Typically, we suggest 'restricted discretionary' activities should become controlled activities in the new system. 'Matters of discretion,' would become 'matters of control.'</p> <p>In general, we suggest non-complying activities should become discretionary activities unless it is an activity that does not meet any of the outcomes (or degrades them) or breaches a limit, in which case it would likely become a prohibited activity.</p>
Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) planning documents	<p>Where national direction refers to plans or planning requirements (including district plans, regional policy statements and future development strategies) these references will need to be reconsidered for the new system.</p> <p>These references will be removed, and we suggest that often they should be replaced with reference to RSSs or natural and built environment plans as appropriate.</p>

Table 4 indicates some specific changes that are being considered for national direction instruments. These are the changes we have identified that are necessary to bring the instruments into the new system and are not intended to be large shifts in policy intent.

Table 4: Changes to existing national direction instruments

Instrument	Suggested change
New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS)	<p>Ensuring the NZCPS policies on biodiversity, heritage and public access align with the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) requirements for places of national importance, significant biodiversity areas, specified cultural heritage and public access</p> <p>Aligning Policy 28 monitoring and review requirements with the broader National Planning Framework (NPF) monitoring and review requirements</p> <p>Restructuring provisions to have clear implementation requirements and clarifying who is responsible for implementing certain provisions.</p>
National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM)	Incorporating new limits and targets language into the NPF, but retaining general approach as set out in the NPS-FM
National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS-UD)	<p>Redrafting future development strategy provisions as direction to regional planning committees (RPCs) for the development of regional spatial strategies (RSSs) in relation to tier 1 and 2 urban environments (rather than being standalone documents)</p> <p>Redrafting Housing and Business Development Capacity Assessment (HBA) requirements to provide direction to RPCs for RSSs and natural and built environment plans (NBE plans)</p>
Medium density residential standards (MDRS)	Intensification planning instruments and the intensification streamlined planning process have not been transferred to the NBE Bill. Therefore, in the new system, the Minister for the Environment would require the MDRS to apply to a new location through an amendment to the NPF (rather than through the Order-in-Council process).
National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land	Changes to clarify that the relationship with the NPS-UD is retained – land identified for future urban development (in an RSS), cannot be identified afterwards as highly productive land (HPL)
National Environmental Standard for Air Quality	<p>Existing ambient air quality and consenting provisions will not be carried over into the first NPF, as they are known to be out of date. These will be updated and transferred into the NPF at a later date, in time to inform NBE plans.</p> <p>Some amendments to the wood burner and mercury amendments will be included (as consulted on in 2020).</p> <p>New outcome articulating the existing policy intent</p>
Marine pollution regulations	Including an outcome statement to clarify policy intent: broadly, that pollution in the coastal marine area from operational or accidental discharges from ships and offshore installations is avoided or minimised

National planning standards

The national planning standards (planning standards) will be carried over into the new system as appropriate. A new structure will be developed for natural and built environment plan (NBE plan) templates, although the general approach to existing plan templates will remain similar. The zone framework would remain the same,

except for some new content on coastal zones. Other parts of the NBE plan standards are likely to remain similar to the status quo.

The key new direction is the RSS template. This will provide a consistent structure to RSSs but allow regional flexibility where appropriate. Any format, accessibility and definitions standards are expected to be similar to those required for RMA plans.

Questions for discussion

4. Do you have any feedback on the proposed changes to Resource Management Act 1991 national direction to ensure it is fit for purpose in the new system?
5. Do you think any other changes are needed to Resource Management Act 1991 national direction when it is redrafted into the National Planning Framework to ensure it aligns with the Natural and Built Environment Bill? This includes giving effect to the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi.*

* The Natural and Built Environment Bill requires the first National Planning Framework to be prepared on the basis of Resource Management Act 1991 national direction.

Climate change mitigation

Clauses 5(b)(i) and 5(b)(ii) of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) include system outcomes for achieving “the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions” and “the removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere”. Officials are considering these outcomes jointly under the term ‘climate change mitigation’.

While Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) national direction is being developed to address a specific aspect of climate change mitigation (industrial process heat), and this will be incorporated into the National Planning Framework (NPF), officials consider that additional content on mitigation as a whole is needed in the first NPF.

This direction would help ensure that regional planning committees approach the overall issue in a consistent way that also looks to improve system performance for other outcomes and assists in managing tensions between climate change reduction and development opportunities.

We consider that the focus for the first NPF should be on setting the foundation at the regional spatial strategy (RSS) level for climate change mitigation in the new system. Over time, the key driver of climate mitigation in the new system will be natural and built environment plans, with strategic support from RSSs. These strategies will provide a blueprint for regions to guide how outcomes such as mitigation will be achieved alongside other strategic priorities for the region.

Table 5: NPF direction that supports regional planning committees

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Direction in the first National Planning Framework (NPF) that will support regional planning committees (RPCs) in identifying climate change mitigation opportunities within their region.	<p>Framework outcomes for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>Direction that encourages RPCs to consider mitigation opportunities alongside other considerations and provides direction on how to do this. This direction would support emissions content already included in existing direction, such as the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and the National Policy Statement for Urban Development.</p> <p>Direction on how RPCs should consider existing information (such as regional emissions profiles) when developing RSSs.</p>

Question for discussion

- Do you have any feedback on the suggested climate change mitigation content for the first National Planning Framework?

Natural hazards risk management and climate adaptation

Clause 5(b)(iii) of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) includes a system outcome for “achieving the reduction of risks arising from, and better resilience of the environment to, natural hazards and the effects of climate change”.

There is increasing urgency to address the effects of natural hazards and the effects of climate change through risk reduction and building resilience. There is limited existing national direction under the Resource Management Act (RMA) aimed at doing so.

Although the RMA does cover natural hazards and (more recently) climate change, it has been insufficient in addressing the risks and providing for adaptation. This is due to the lack of integration across the system, and the absence of strong national direction to provide mandate and guidance for local authorities to implement their statutory mandate. This means that the risk to life, property, the natural environment, and the things we value, is continuing to increase. Climate change is also increasing the frequency and intensity of many of the natural hazards that we experience in Aotearoa.

Direction in the first National Planning Framework (NPF) will ensure a consistent approach to risk reduction and adaptation to natural hazards and the effects of climate change is taken through RSS development. This is intended to lay the foundation for future more detailed direction to be included in the NPF in future to inform NBE plan development.

Table 6: Risk Assessment Framework

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
<p>Ensuring a consistent approach to risk reduction and adaptation to natural hazards and the effects of climate change and providing confidence in the information used by regions.</p>	<p>Framework outcomes for risk reduction and resilience to natural hazards and the effects of climate change.</p> <p>Direction that sets a foundation for a future risk assessment framework, focusing on regional spatial strategies (RSS) direction for the first National Planning Framework (NPF). This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requiring regional planning committees (RPCs) to identify natural hazards facing their region and consider the risk posed by natural hazards. This recognises that the first regional spatial strategies (RSS) will most likely rely on existing Resource Management Act (RMA) information but could require modelling or identification of specific types of hazards. • Requiring RPCs to consider what further work is needed to prepare for the preparation of natural and built environment (NBE) plans on reducing risks from natural hazards. This could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – determining areas that are at-risk and where further work may be required to determine if development is appropriate – consider if existing infrastructure is sufficient to manage risks posed by natural hazards, and consider next steps if it isn't sufficient – seek information from infrastructure providers on the risks to infrastructure and measures to reduce those risks. • Direction that encourages RPCs to consider risk reduction opportunities and adaptation approaches alongside other considerations and provide direction on how to do this. • Enabling existing and innovative risk reduction and adaptation approaches that have multiple benefits like nature-based solutions, identification of areas that act as buffers.

Question for discussion

7. Do you have any feedback on the suggested natural hazards content for the first NPF?

Environmental limits and targets in the first NPF

The purpose of setting environmental limits is to protect the ecological integrity of the natural environment from degrading from the state it is when the relevant part of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) comes into force, and to protect human health (see [clause 37](#) and [40\(3\)](#) of the NBE Bill). The purpose of setting environmental targets is to help improve the state of the natural and built environment (see [clause 47](#) of the NBE Bill).

The NBE Bill enables environmental limits to be set in the National Planning Framework (NPF), or the NPF may prescribe the process and requirements for limits to be set locally in natural environment plans (NBE plans).

The first NPF will:

- set out measurable biophysical characteristics of the natural environment associated with ecological integrity and human health (attributes) relating to each of the six mandatory matters (air, coastal waters, estuaries, freshwater, indigenous biodiversity and soil) that need to be managed as limits and have associated targets set for
- provide direction on the setting of ‘management units’ within which limits and targets will be managed
- direct the process to set limits in NBE plans and signal how targets are expected to be set (including via engagement)
- outline what form requests for exemptions from limits will take.

Attributes

Limits and associated targets will be based on ‘attributes’. Examples of attributes are the concentration of nitrogen and phosphorus in water. Attributes prescribed in the NPF will be informed by empirical evidence, including scientific knowledge and mātauranga Māori.

The first NPF will bring in existing attributes from the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) and add a small set of new attributes to start to fill key gaps. Existing minimum level targets (‘bottom lines’) will also be carried over from the NPS-FM.

The attributes suggested for the first NPF are set out below. These have been selected on the basis of urgency/importance, suitability and feasibility. These are not the full suite of attributes we expect to have in the NPF over time. Future work will develop further limits and targets ready for implementation through NBE plans. This will be done collaboratively.

Table 7: Attributes of mandatory matters for environmental limits

Mandatory matter/domain	Attribute
Air	PM 2.5 (fine particulate matter)
Indigenous biodiversity	Indigenous vegetation cover
Coastal waters	Saltmarsh
Estuaries	Seagrass
Freshwater	Sediment
	Nuisance micro-algae
	Existing attributes from the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
Soil	Soil erosion

Management units

Limits and targets will apply within 'management units'. Management units are geographical areas for which limits and targets will be set and reported on. They will be an important tool in enabling development above limits. Management units must be sufficient to enable the purpose of limits and targets to be met and be determined by reference to scientific knowledge and mātauranga Māori.

The NBE Bill proposes overarching direction for management units. We are considering how much more direction is required in the NPF. A key consideration is whether regional variation could create inconsistencies in applying offsetting requirements, assessing exemptions to limits, and establishing a national picture of the application and implementation of the limits and targets framework.

Some design considerations we would like feedback on are listed below.

Questions for discussion

8. What sort of scale would ensure no net loss of ecological integrity and allow development within the management unit?
9. How can adding complexity to planning decisions be avoided?
10. How can the interconnectedness of all parts of te taiao be provided for?

Exemptions

The NBE Bill allows for exemptions from environmental limits in exceptional circumstances.

Requests for exemptions from limits need to be in a form approved by the Minister for the Environment. We consider that this form should be set out in the NPF, so the exemptions framework is transparent, efficient and clear. This will also help to ensure that requests for an exemption are only submitted where appropriate, and that they include the required information and can be assessed efficiently.

Targets

Targets are intended to reflect a higher level of aspiration than environmental limits. The new system would acknowledge local differences, with communities being able to set targets above a nationally prescribed target to reflect their own aspirations and the things they care about. Communities must also be able to measure progress.

There is an opportunity to provide direction to enable communities to be actively involved. We would like feedback on what this could look like. For example, what level of detail should be provided in the NPF to guide target setting?

Question for discussion

11. How can we simplify implementation of management units to meet the purpose of limits and targets and to provide flexibility for appropriate offsetting?

Infrastructure

Clause 5(i) of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) includes a system outcome for “the ongoing and timely provision of infrastructure services to support the well-being of people and communities”. The NBE Bill also requires the National Planning Framework (NPF) to provide direction on “enabling infrastructure and development corridors” (see clause 58).

While some existing national direction instruments cover specific types of infrastructure (eg, the National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation, National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities), there is no existing national direction that covers infrastructure provision generally.

New direction on infrastructure in the first NPF is intended to be a first step towards ensuring that the new resource management system better enables the provision of infrastructure to:

- address the infrastructure deficit
- support future population growth and change
- contribute to reducing climate emissions
- improve natural environmental impacts
- improve efficiency in the speed and cost of infrastructure provision.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, most infrastructure is delivered by a few providers, who operate throughout the country and carry out many common infrastructure activities. Currently, there is little national consistency in how councils manage the effects of infrastructure, except for a limited number of activities referenced by existing national environmental standards. Increased standardisation of common infrastructure activities would have several benefits, including:

- minimising the need to consent and reducing the significant cost of consenting infrastructure projects
- where consenting is required, reducing the number of matters requiring complex bespoke assessment and/or the reliance on external experts to provide it
- reducing litigation risk on the method or approach that should be followed
- providing more certainty that good outcomes for both infrastructure and the environment will be achieved through consistent consent conditions
- speeding up processes.

As shown in table 8, we are considering a package of infrastructure direction in the first NPF to help the resource management system to plan and enable the right infrastructure in the right place at the right time. The package includes:

- framework outcomes and supporting direction on infrastructure provision to direct resource management decision makers, with an initial focus on regional planning committees in developing regional spatial strategies (RSSs)
- policies directing consistent use of a prioritised set of infrastructure standards and rules for an initial shortlist of common infrastructure activities and effects.

Table 8: Framework outcomes and supporting policies for infrastructure

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Ensuring that regional planning committees (RPCs) achieve the coordination of planning and funding needed for infrastructure to contribute to multiple outcomes and meet future needs.	<p>Framework outcome on integrating long-term land use and infrastructure planning and funding.</p> <p>Direction to guide process for engaging with infrastructure providers, infrastructure planning to support national direction on urban development, and the identification of corridors and sites for future infrastructure (required by the Natural and Built Environment Bill).</p>
Ensuring that existing or new infrastructure necessary for human life, and for Aotearoa to function, is provided for.	<p>Framework outcome on providing for 'lifeline' infrastructure.</p> <p>Direction including a clear definition of lifeline infrastructure and direction on how regional spatial strategies (RSSs) should provide for it.</p> <p>Generally, this direction is intended to simplify the pathway for certain types of infrastructure. If planned for at the regional and strategic level, this may mean there are fewer requirements through the consenting process.</p>
Recognising that infrastructure needs to be developed to support wellbeing and, in many cases (such as wastewater treatment upgrades), to improve te taiao.	<p>Framework outcome on enabling the development of beneficial infrastructure while upholding te Oranga o te Taiao.</p> <p>Direction that encourages decision makers to look for 'win-wins' when considering infrastructure development and helps them navigate potential areas of conflict between outcomes. This could include direction on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • valuing green infrastructure • benefits that infrastructure projects may provide • how RPCs should assess the functional or operational needs for infrastructure to be in particular locations.
Ensuring better use is made of existing infrastructure, to help minimise the need to invest scarce financial and natural resources in new infrastructure.	<p>Framework outcome on enabling optimum use of existing infrastructure.</p> <p>Direction focused on how existing infrastructure should be treated as things change over time, so that it can provide necessary services while ensuring other outcomes can be achieved.</p>

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Supporting the emissions reduction plan and national adaptation plan recommendations for infrastructure.	<p>Framework outcome on enabling infrastructure to support climate change and natural hazards goals.</p> <p>Direction focused on enabling renewable electricity development and upgrades that reduce emissions from existing infrastructure, as well as adaptation or movement of infrastructure at risk from the changing climate and natural hazards.</p>
Increasing certainty and efficiency for infrastructure projects in the new system	<p>Policies directing consistent use of the following prioritised set of infrastructure standards and rules for common infrastructure activities and effects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • noise and vibration • tree works/vegetation management (above ground) • earthworks – erosion and sediment control, dust, works in waterways • coastal hazards • archaeology – unexpected discovery • outdoor lighting, and lighting for roads and public spaces • the 2019 draft network utility rules, amended for the new resource management system • updated National Environmental Standards for Telecommunication Facilities and Electricity Transmission.

Questions for discussion

12. Do you have any feedback on the proposed infrastructure direction?
13. How can infrastructure be enabled in a way that still allows other outcomes to be achieved?

Outstanding natural features and landscapes

Clause 5(a)(ii) of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) includes a system outcome for the protection or, if degraded, restoration, of “outstanding natural features and outstanding natural landscapes”.

Existing national direction addresses outstanding natural features and landscapes (ONFLs) only indirectly, to the extent that ONFLs relate to the primary topic of an existing instrument. We consider that additional content is required to ensure that ONFLs are considered as part of the process to develop regional spatial strategies (RSSs).

As shown in [table 9](#), we are considering including framework outcomes and supporting provisions in the first National Planning Framework (NPF), aimed at ensuring (at a level appropriate to RSSs) that:

- ONFLs and their values and characteristics are recognised and described

- the values and characteristics of ONFLs are protected in a way that, as far as possible, also allows other system outcomes to be achieved.

For the first NPF and development of the first RSSs, we are not considering requiring regional planning committees to generate large amounts of new evidence or reassess existing classifications. Instead, a key focus will be enabling committees to make the best use of existing work and evidence, while still allowing the flexibility, should the need arise, to:

- reassess specific existing classifications
- consider candidate sites for new ONFLs in RSSs, where they have not been well identified to date
- identify areas where mapping of ONFLs should be a priority for natural and built environment plans.

In those situations, the first NPF is likely to point committees towards current best practice, with more prescriptive processes and requirements to possibly follow in later versions.

We do consider that a clear understanding and description of what it is that makes a particular feature or landscape ‘outstanding’ is particularly important. Experience under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) has shown that landscape protection is a complex, costly, emotive and litigious issue that often interacts with other outcomes in the NBE Bill. Understanding the special or outstanding values and characteristics of a given feature or landscape will be key to making informed decisions on how best to protect them in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved.

Table 9: Framework for outstanding natural features and landscapes

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Ensuring that regional planning committees (RPCs) have a clear understanding of the location and extent of outstanding natural features and landscapes (ONFLs) within a region, and the values and characteristics that make them ‘outstanding’.	<p>A framework outcome for ONFLs to be recognised and described.</p> <p>Direction to help RPCs approach identifying ONFLs in a consistent way. This could be drawn from, or based on, parts of Policy 15 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement. There are also examples of guidance from relevant sector bodies to draw upon.</p> <p>Direction to RPCs on how to integrate existing evidence and work on ONFLs into the development of regional spatial strategies.</p>

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Ensuring that the aspects that make a feature or landscape 'outstanding' are protected, while at the same time ensuring that other system outcomes can also be achieved.	<p>A framework outcome for values and characteristics of ONFLs to be protected.</p> <p>Direction on how to protect values and characteristics of ONFLs, while also enabling other system outcomes to be achieved. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requirements to consider alternatives where strategic development may impact ONFLs • recognising that functional and operational needs of certain infrastructure may require it to be located within ONFLs • applying the effects-management framework (where appropriate).

Questions for discussion

14. Do you have any feedback on the suggested content on outstanding natural features and landscapes?
15. How should regional planning committees take into account outstanding natural features and landscapes already mapped when making decisions on regional spatial strategies?
16. How can outstanding natural features and landscapes be protected in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved?

Cultural heritage

Clause 5 (g) of the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) includes a system outcome for “the conservation of cultural heritage”².

Existing national direction addresses cultural heritage only indirectly, to the extent that it relates to the primary topic of an existing instrument. We consider that additional content is required to ensure that cultural heritage is considered as part of the process to develop regional spatial strategies (RSSs).

As shown in table 10, we are considering including framework outcomes and supporting provisions in the first National Planning Framework (NPF), aimed at ensuring (at a level appropriate to RSSs) that:

- cultural-heritage places and their values are identified and documented
- the values of cultural-heritage places are conserved and managed in a way that, as far as possible, also allows other system outcomes to be achieved.

² 'Cultural heritage' is defined in clause 7 of the NBE Bill.

Like for outstanding natural features and landscapes, for the first NPF and development of the first RSSs, officials are not considering requiring regional planning committees (RPCs) to generate large amounts of new evidence or reassess existing cultural-heritage classifications.

Instead, a key focus will be enabling RPCs to make the best use of existing work and evidence, while still allowing the flexibility should the need arise to identify areas where further investigation of potential cultural-heritage values should be a priority for natural and built environment plans. In those situations, the first NPF is likely to guide RPCs, with more prescriptive processes and requirements to follow in future amendments to the NPF.

We consider it important that RPCs have a clear understanding and description of what it is that makes a particular cultural-heritage place worth conserving. Understanding the values and characteristics of a given cultural-heritage place will be key to making informed decisions on how best to conserve them in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved.

Table 10: Framework for cultural heritage

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Ensuring that regional planning committees (RPCs) have a clear understanding of cultural-heritage places within a region, and the values that make them worth conserving	<p>Framework outcome for cultural-heritage places to be identified and described.</p> <p>Supporting direction to help RPCs consider cultural heritage in a consistent way at a scale appropriate for regional spatial strategies (RSSs).</p> <p>Supporting direction to RPCs on how to integrate existing evidence and work cultural heritage into the development of RSSs.</p>
Ensuring that the values that give meaning value to cultural heritage places are conserved, while at the same time ensuring that other system outcomes can also be achieved.	<p>Framework outcome for cultural-heritage values to be conserved.</p> <p>Supporting direction on how to conserve values of cultural heritage, while also enabling other system outcomes to be achieved. Options include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • requirements to consider alternatives, where strategic development may impact cultural heritage • recognising that functional and operational needs of certain infrastructure may require it to be located within cultural landscapes or other cultural-heritage places • applying the effects-management framework (where appropriate) • supporting direction on active use and ongoing management of cultural-heritage places.

Questions for discussion

17. How should regional planning committees take into account cultural heritage that is already identified and other places which warrant further investigation when making decisions on regional spatial strategies?
18. How can cultural-heritage places best be conserved in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved?

Urban trees

While the Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) does not include a requirement for the National Planning Framework (NPF) to address urban trees, the Government has identified direction for urban trees as a priority for inclusion in the first NPF.

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), there are several problems with how urban trees are addressed, including:

- scheduling is inefficient and ineffective
- canopy coverage is variable across urban areas. In many areas, the percentage of the canopy coverage from larger trees is reducing.
- intensification leads to increased pressure to remove large trees on private property.

We are considering content in the first NPF, aimed at clarifying the importance of trees in our urban environments and providing guidance to regional planning committees on how to take them into account when preparing the first regional spatial strategies (RSSs). This content is intended to be focused on the strategic direction needed for RSSs, and to lay the foundation for more detailed direction that informs the development of natural and built environment plans, to be provided in subsequent versions of the NPF.

Alongside this, the Government is also actively considering developing RMA national direction on urban trees, to ensure that urban trees are adequately protected during the transition period before the NPF comes into effect.

Table 11: Direction on urban trees

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
Greater clarity on the importance of trees in urban environments.	Direction which sets out the rationale for trees in our urban spaces, including ensuring equitable access to urban tree-canopy coverage.
Urban tree-canopy coverage is monitored and areas for improvement are identified.	Guidance to regional spatial strategies relating to monitoring data of urban tree-canopy coverage, identifying areas where a coordinated response for urban tree management is required and encouraging urban forest strategies.

Question for discussion

19. Do you have any feedback on the suggested urban trees content for the first National Planning Framework?

Significant biodiversity areas criteria

The Natural and Built Environment Bill (NBE Bill) requires natural and built environment plans to identify significant biodiversity areas (SBAs) within their regions. These SBAs are then considered to be ‘places of national importance’, which are covered by NBE Bill provisions that set out how adverse effects on these places are managed.

The NBE Bill requires the criteria for identifying SBAs to be included in the National Planning Framework (NPF). Table 12 sets out the approach to setting SBA criteria that officials are considering.

Table 12: Significant Natural Areas Criteria

What we are trying to achieve	What we are considering
The significant biodiversity areas (SBAs) criteria in the National Planning Framework (NPF) should allow regional planning committees (RPCs) to identify SBAs in their natural and built environment plans. The criteria should apply to the terrestrial, marine and freshwater domains. The identified SBAs will then be managed in accordance with other provisions in the Natural and Built Environment Bill and the NPF.	<p>The suggested criteria are largely based on the significant natural areas (SNA) criteria proposed under the proposed National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB). The same four categories apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representativeness • diversity and pattern • rarity and distinctiveness • ecological context. <p>Small changes to the criteria are being considered, to extend their applicability to the freshwater and marine domains (the NPS-IB and its SNA criteria only apply to the terrestrial domain).</p>

Question for discussion

20. Do you have any feedback on the suggested significant biodiversity areas criteria for the first National Planning Framework?

Regional implementation

To ensure a successful transition to and implementation of the new system, we need to ensure our partners and stakeholders can transition to and successfully participate in the new system. The new system will require shifts in how we work across local government, hapū/iwi and Māori, central government and stakeholders.

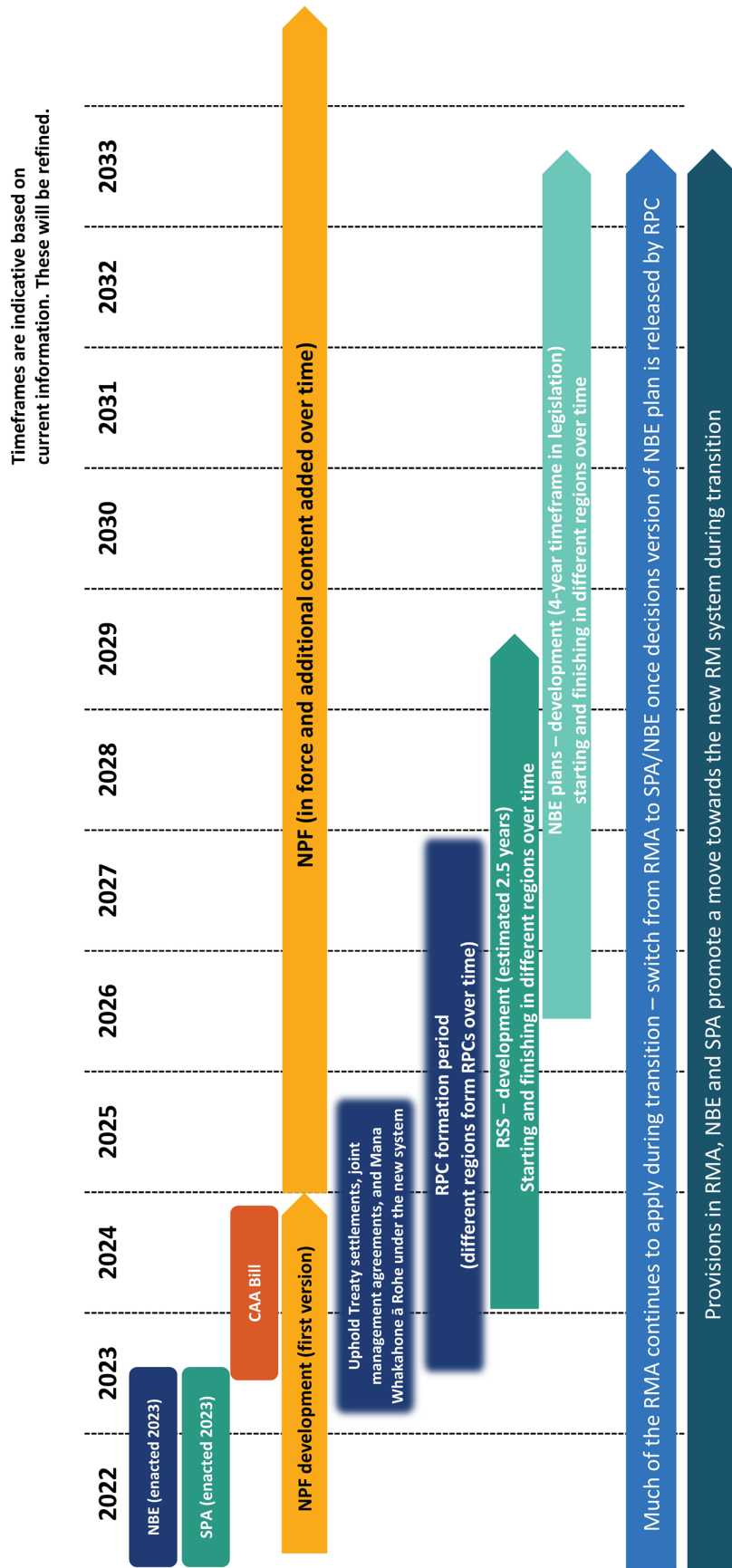
Transition to the new system

Transition to the new system is anticipated to take around 10 years. This timetable was indicated in the Randerson report³, and is driven by the need to ensure that the hierarchy of direction and guidance from the National Planning Framework (NPF) to regional spatial strategies (RSSs) and natural and built environment plans (NBE plans) is achieved.

A staged approach is anticipated, whereby some regions will begin the RSS development process, followed by another group of regions. The Natural and Built Environment Bill currently has a final date for RSS notification of seven years after enactment. The NBE plans are required to be developed within four years after notification of the RSSs.

³ Resource Management Review Panel. 2020. *New Directions for Resource Management in New Zealand: Report of the Resource Management Panel Review: Summary and key recommendations.*

Figure 2: RM system transition and implementation timeline



Implementing the new system

Ministers agreed funding in Budget 2022 to enable the successful delivery of the resource management system reforms, including funding to support the first group of regions (the “first tranche regions”) to develop RSSs and NBE plans. This Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) is also exploring ways to manage capacity across the resource management system during the transition.

The Ministry will work alongside this first group of regions, providing guidance, funding and support to enable the establishment of regional planning committees (RPCs) and the development of their strategies and plans in the new system.

Along with local government, the Ministry will work in partnership with iwi, hapū, whānau, Māori interests, post-settlement governance entities to demonstrate how the new system works and is delivered. This will allow us to *collectively* gather learnings for the regions that follow and consider how best to support and improve implementation over the coming years.

First tranche regions

There is an opportunity for several regions with different characteristics to implement the new system ahead of other regions. RPCs will be established in the “first tranche regions” and will develop the first RSSs and NBE plans with central government support. This will enable local government and iwi/hapū/Māori in these regions to test the new system across a range of resource management issues, providing insights and learnings for regions that follow.

We will work with some regions on a scoping exercise in April to June 2023, to better understand what is required to get work in the new system underway and the support needed from central government. Taking part in the scoping exercise does not commit a region to being in the first implementation tranche. However, agreement with iwi/hapū/Māori is an essential part of progressing the first tranche regions. The next phase after scoping would be formal confirmation of up to three regions as first-tranche regions – possibly by the end of October 2023.

A stronger role for iwi/hapū in the new system

The proposed legislation ensures a stronger role for iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori groups who will be important delivery partners in the new resource management system. This will require shifts in how we work across local government, hapū, iwi and Māori, central government and stakeholders. We need to ensure our partners can transition to, and participate fully in, the new system. We also recognise that there is a lot of environmental reform underway and are trying to improve how we engage at the local and regional levels. To support this, we are employing new kaiwhakaterere

(regional navigators) to improve connections between the Ministry and our regional partners, focusing on Māori and local government. This is about having relationships in place that will enable a tailored approach to each region's needs. New skills and knowledge will be needed for people and groups to participate and represent their interests effectively in the new system.

We recognise that iwi, hapū and Māori may face capacity challenges as they take on a stronger role in the new system. The Ministerial Oversight Group for the reforms noted that investment in iwi/Māori capacity was needed to underpin the system, and Ministers agreed funding for this in Budget 2022.

The Ministry has initiated work on potential guidance, training and capacity supports for the new system. This will help local government, iwi, hapū, whānau and Māori interests, and resource management practitioners to build and sustain capacity to transition to and participate in the new system. We will work with these groups to develop this work when the new system begins to roll out. We will build on the experience we have gained from capacity-building for the freshwater reforms.

Question for discussion

Iwi and hapū have a strong role to play in the new resource management system.

21. How can we best support your conversations with iwi and hapū in your region about the new resource management system?

Appendix 1: Questions for discussion

1. Do you have any feedback on the suggested approach to decision making and conflict resolution?
2. Do you have any feedback on the suggested direction on engagement?
3. Do you have any feedback on the suggested approach to monitoring?
4. Do you have any feedback on the proposed changes to Resource Management Act 1991 national direction to ensure it is fit for purpose in the new system?
5. Do you think any other changes are needed to Resource Management Act 1991 national direction when it is redrafted into the National Planning Framework to ensure it aligns with the Natural and Built Environment Bill? This includes giving effect to the principles of te Tiriti o Waitangi.*
6. Do you have any feedback on the suggested climate change mitigation content for the first National Planning Framework?
7. Do you have any feedback on the suggested natural hazards content for the first NPF?
8. What sort of scale would ensure no net loss of ecological integrity and allow development within the management unit?
9. How can adding complexity to planning decisions be avoided?
10. How can the interconnectedness of all parts of te taiao be provided for?
11. How can we simplify implementation of management units to meet the purpose of limits and targets and to provide flexibility for appropriate offsetting?
12. Do you have any feedback on the proposed infrastructure direction?
13. How can infrastructure be enabled in a way that still allows other outcomes to be achieved?
14. Do you have any feedback on the suggested content on outstanding natural features and landscapes?
15. How should regional planning committees take into account outstanding natural features and landscapes already mapped when making decisions on regional spatial strategies?
16. How can outstanding natural features and landscapes be protected in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved?
17. How should regional planning committees take into account cultural heritage that is already identified and other places which warrant further investigation when making decisions on regional spatial strategies?

18. How can cultural-heritage places best be conserved in a way that also allows for other outcomes to be achieved?
19. Do you have any feedback on the suggested urban trees content for the first National Planning Framework?
20. Do you have any feedback on the suggested significant biodiversity areas criteria for the first National Planning Framework?
21. How can we best support your conversations with iwi and hapū in your region about the new resource management system?

Appendix 2: Glossary of terms

CAA	Climate Adaptation Act
NBE Act	Natural and Built Environment Act
NBE Bill	Natural and Built Environment Bill
NBE plan	Natural and Built Environment Plan
NPF	National Planning Framework
RMA	Resource Management Act 1991
RPC/RPCs	Regional planning committee / regional planning committees
RSS/RSSs	Regional spatial strategy / regional spatial strategies
SP Bill	Spatial Planning Bill
SPA	Spatial Planning Act
Te Tiriti	Te Tiriti o Waitangi the Treaty of Waitangi

Appendix 3: Resource management system reform key documents

Environment Committee. 2021. *Inquiry on the Natural and Built Environments Bill: Parliamentary Paper*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2020. *Reforming the resource management system*. Cabinet Paper CAB-20-MIN-0522. Wellington: Cabinet Office, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Departmental Report on the Natural and Built Environments Bill exposure draft*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Extracts from Waitangi Tribunal commentary, findings and recommendations on the Resource Management Act 1991*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Interim regulatory impact statement: Reforming the resource management system*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Natural and Built Environments Bill: Parliamentary paper on the exposure draft*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2021. *Our future resource management system: Materials for discussion*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2022. *Our Future Resource System: Overview*.

Ministry for the Environment. 2022. *Supplementary Analysis Report: The new resource management system*.

New Zealand Productivity Commission. 2017. *Better urban planning: Final report*.

Resource Management Review Panel. 2020. *New Directions for Resource Management in New Zealand: Report of the Resource Management Panel Review: Summary and key recommendations*.

Severinsen G, Peart R. 2018. *Reform of the Resource Management System: The Next Generation Synthesis Report*. Prepared for the Environmental Defence Society Incorporated.

Title: 23-106 Local Governance Statement - Local Government Act 2002
Section: Democracy & Support Services
Prepared by: Heather Kohn - Democracy & Support Services Manager
Meeting Date: Thursday 18 May 2023

Legal: Yes

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

Report to COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA for decision

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to table the Local Governance Statement 2023 (LGS) and to provide a forum for any points of clarification Council may have.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

The Local Government Act 2002, Section 40, requires all councils to produce a LGS within six months after a triennial local election and to make it publicly available. The LGS serves as a collection of information about Gisborne District Council and explains how we do business and engage with our residents and ratepayers to make decisions, and how our residents can influence these processes.

It further sets out information about the Council such as the activities, structure, meeting processes and relevant legislation governing Council's conduct and business.

A draft LGS has been publicly available since the 8 April 2023 deadline however some further fine tuning has been made to this **attached** final document.

The weather events of February and March 2023 meant that many staff contributing to the LGS were diverted into the Civil Defence and Emergency management response.

The Department of Internal Affairs advised 3 May 2023 that they are proceeding with an Order in Council that may extend the deadline for the Local Governance Statements for Councils that have been affected by recent weather events. It is likely to be passed 7 June 2023 and applies retrospectively.

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 Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Approves the Local Governance Statement 2023 subject to changes agreed at the Council meeting 18 May 2023.

Authorised by:

James Baty - Director Internal Partnerships

Keywords: Local Governance Statement, Council, Election, representation arrangements, electoral system, governance structure, delegations, consultation, Māori, official information, Code of Conduct

BACKGROUND - HE WHAKAMĀRAMA

1. The Local Governance Statement (LGS) serves as a collection of information about Council, and how we engage with Tairāwhiti residents to make decisions, and how our residents can influence these processes.
2. A new LGS is required within six months of each triennial election, which meant it needed to be made public by 8 April 2023. The Draft LGS was on track to come before Council in March 2023 however the weather events of February and March 2023 caused contributing staff to be diverted into the Civil Defence and Emergency Management response. The draft document was made publicly available 8 April 2023 however it has not been before Council until now.
3. A LGS is a requirement under Section 40 of the Local Government Act 2002 and requires information on the following:
 - Functions, responsibilities and activities (translated into vision, framework, outcomes).
 - Local legislation.
 - Bylaws (including for each bylaw, its title, a general description of it, when it was made and, if applicable, the date of its last review under section 158 or 159).
 - Electoral system and the opportunity to change it.
 - Representation arrangements (including the option of establishing Māori wards or constituencies, and the opportunity to change them).
 - Members' roles and conduct (with specific reference to Code of Conduct).
 - Governance structures and processes, membership and delegations.
 - Meeting processes (with specific reference to the Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987 and Standing Orders).
 - Consultation policies.
 - Policies for liaising with, and memoranda or agreements with, iwi and Māori.
 - Management structure and the relationship between management and elected members.
 - Remuneration and employment policy, if adopted.
 - Equal employment opportunities policy.
 - Key approved planning and policy documents and the process for their development and review.
 - Public access to Council services and its elected members.
 - Processes for requests for official information.
4. The structure and layout of the LGS publication follows the structure above.

DISCUSSION and OPTIONS - WHAKAWHITINGA KŌRERO me ngā KŌWHIRINGA

5. All councils are required to prepare a LGS at the beginning of a new Council term.
6. The LGS explains how we do business and engage with our residents and ratepayers. It outlines how we make decisions and how residents and ratepayers can influence our decisions.
7. The content of the 2023 LGS has been updated from the 2020 LGS to reflect any changes that have occurred over the past three years.
8. It is important to note that the information contained in the LGS has been obtained from existing sources of information, e.g. Council website, reports, statements and input from identified internal stakeholders.
9. The Severe Weather Emergency Recovery Legislation Act 2023 creates the ability to issue Orders in Council (OIC) which can enable other legislation to be relaxed, or be operated more flexibly, to allow for this.
10. The Order in Council, currently out for consultation and scheduled to be enacted the week of 6 June 2023 includes eight temporary amendments to local government legislation. The OIC will simplify annual planning and rate setting processes and extend the statutory timeframe for approving local governance statements and triennial agreements. The date will be extended to 8 July 2023.
11. If Council decides that a great deal more work is required on our LGS then they have the ability to leave it to lie on the table. This is not the recommended option however as our LGS is drawn from information that already exists.

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: Low Significance

This Report: 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

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

TANGATA WHENUA/MĀORI ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA TANGATA WHENUA

13. The legislation under which Council works places a very strong emphasis on being aware of and considering the views and preferences of tangata whenua/Māori during its decision-making processes.
14. No formal tangata whenua/Māori engagement is required in the preparation of a LGS.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - TŪTAKITANGA HAPORI

15. No community engagement is required in the preparation of a LGS.
16. Council is required to make the document publicly available. Hard copies of the 2023 LGS will be available from Awarua Customer Services, Te Puia Springs and the HB Williams Memorial Library following this Council meeting.
17. Updated online copies will be available on Council's website www.gdc.govt.nz once any suggested changes have been made.

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

18. There will be no impact on climate change as a result of the matters in this report and LGS.

CONSIDERATIONS - HEI WHAKAARO

Financial/Budget

19. There are no financial implications applicable as design and printing of the publication will be completed in-house.

Legal

20. The preparation of a LGS is a requirement under s40 of the LGA 2002.
21. The proposed OIC extends the time frames for the publishing of LGS to 8 July 2023.

POLICY and PLANNING IMPLICATIONS - KAUPAPA HERE me ngā RITENGA WHAKAMAHERE

22. There are no policy and planning implications.

RISKS - NGĀ TŪRARU

23. There are no major risks with adopting the LGS.
24. If there are changes made to the document, any risks over delays from providing a final published document after the due date of 8 April, has been mitigated by having a draft LGS on our website and advising the National Library that it won't be available in final form until after 18 May 2023.
25. Advice received 3 May from DIA has also mitigated the risk of not reaching the deadline 8 April 2023 and it is likely it will be extended to 8 July 2023.
26. The National Library acknowledged the process that Council has undertaken and supported the receiving of the final document after it has been approved by Council.

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
18 May 2023	Council meeting	Take account of any clarification questions and feedback.
By 8 July 2023 at the latest	The final LGS publicly available and sent to the National Library.	

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - Local Governance Statement 2023 [23-106.1 - 31 pages]



Te Tauākī Mana Whakahaere ā-rohe Local Governance Statement 2023





Ngā Kaupapa Contents

HE AHA TE TAUĀKĪ MANA WHAKAHAERE? WHAT IS A GOVERNANCE STATEMENT?	3
KUPU WHAKAMIHI NA TE KOROMATUA FOREWORD FROM OUR MAYOR	6
NGĀ ĀHEINGA, NGĀ HAEPAPA ME NGĀ MAHI A TE KAUNIHERA FUNCTIONS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL	7
TO MĀTAU ANGA RAUTAKI OUR STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK	9
TE WHAKAMANATANGA O TE TIRITI O WAITANGI GIVING EFFECT TO TE TIRITI O WAITANGI	11
NGĀ TURE, RAUTAKI, KAUPAPA MATUA HEI ARAHI I A MĀTAU KEY LEGISLATION, STRATEGIES AND POLICIES THAT GUIDE US	13
NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE WHAKAŌRITE WHIWHINGA MAHI EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICIES	16
TE UIUINGA ME TE TŪTAKINA HAPORI CONSULTATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	17
TE TIKANGA PŌTI ME TE KŌWHIRINGA WHAKAREREKĒ THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHANGE IT	18
NGĀ WHAKARITENGA WHAKAAHUAHANGA REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS	19
NGĀ MAHI ME TE WHANONGA O NGĀ MEMA THE ROLE AND CONDUCT OF ELECTED MEMBERS	21
NGĀ HANGA KĀWANATANGA, NGĀ MEMA, NGĀ HAEPAPA ME NGĀ APĀRANGI GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES, MEMBERSHIP, RESPONSIBILITIES AND DELEGATIONS	23
NGĀ TUKANGA WHAKAHAERE HUI MEETING PROCESSES	27
TE TONO MO NGĀ KŌRERO ŌKAWA OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUESTS	28
TŌ MĀTOU RŌPŪ OUR ORGANISATION	29





He aha te tauākī mana whakahaere? What is a governance statement?

The Local Governance Statement is a collection of information about the Gisborne District Council, how we engage with the region's residents to make decisions, and how our residents can influence these processes.

A new Local Governance Statement is required within six months of each triennial election.

A Local Governance Statement is a requirement of [Section 40](#) of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and requires the following information:

- Functions, responsibilities and activities (translated into vision, framework, outcomes).
- Local legislation.
- Bylaws (including for each bylaw, its title, a general description of it, when it was made, and, if applicable, the date of its last review under Section 158 or 159).
- Electoral system and the opportunity to change it.
- Representation arrangements (including the option of establishing Māori wards or constituencies, and the opportunity to change them).
- Members' roles and conduct (with specific reference to code of conduct).
- Governance structures and processes, membership and delegations.
- Meeting processes (with specific reference to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and standing orders).
- Consultation policies.
- Policies for liaising with, and memoranda or agreements with iwi and Māori.
- Management structure and the relationship between management and elected members.
- Remuneration and employment policy, if adopted.
- Equal employment opportunities policy.
- Key approved planning and policy documents and the process for their development and review.
- Public access to Council services and its elected members.
- Processes for requests for official information.

MORE INFORMATION

All Council publications referred to in this document are available at gdc.govt.nz

ISSN 2230-648X (Online)

The Local Governance Statement is Council's official information document.

Version Control: Adopted 18 May 2023.

Review Date: Not later than April 2023 (six months following the triennial elections).





Tō tātau rohe Our district

OUR POPULATION BY LOCATION

51,500
people

21.7%
other townships
and rural



1% national
population

3% national
land area

1.1%
Te Karaka

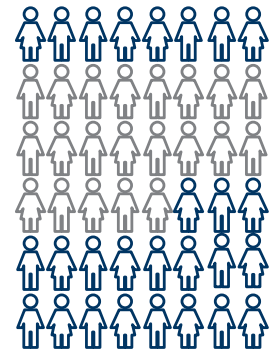
1.6%
Ruātōria

0.9%
Tokomaru
Bay

1.7%
Tolaga
Bay

72.7%
Gisborne

OUR POPULATION AGE



16.2%
people
65yrs
plus

39%
under
25yrs old
highest
proportion
of under
25's in NZ

Source: Stats NZ - www.stats.govt.nz

OUR HOUSING



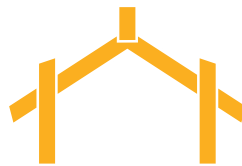
\$840,000
national median

\$665,000
Tairāwhiti median

7.3%
house price rise

2.4%
national median
house price

Source: REINZ -
www.reinz.co.nz



OUR TANGATA WHENUA

- 4** regional iwi
- 71** operational Marae
- 16%** te reo Māori speakers
- 4x** national percentage of te reo Māori speakers



OUR ETHNICITY

58.1%
European

53%
Māori

4.5%
Pacific
peoples

2.8%
Asian

1.3%
Other
ethnicity

Multiple ethnicities possible so
totals more than 100%

Source: Stats NZ -
www.stats.govt.nz





COUNCIL SERVICES



11,376
registered
dogs

43
playgrounds
30
sports parks



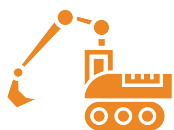
almost
1,900km
of roads of which
almost
90% are rural
roads

77
public conveniences



38,300m³
of water capacity
stored in
7 reservoirs

236km
of footpaths



76km
of stopbanks



OUR INCOME

\$80,055
national median
\$66,000
Tairāwhiti median
26% have **less than \$30,00**
19% between \$30,000-\$50,000



EMPLOYMENT

68% working-age employed
4.5% unemployment rate
65% living in decile 8-10
3.5% annual employment
growth



GDP

\$2,504m
Provisionally up 1.5%
National growth 2.8%



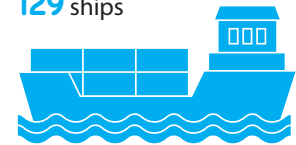
GISBORNE AIRPORT

196,500
passenger movements
33,800
take-off and landings

Source: Eastland Group
Annual Report 2022 -
www.eastland.nz

GISBORNE PORT

129 ships



2,890,730 tonnes
of cargo left our port

Source: Eastland Group
Annual Report 2022 -
www.eastland.nz





Kupu whakamihi na te koromatua

Foreword from our mayor

Tēnā koutou,

We're pleased to introduce Te Kaunihera o Tairāwhiti Gisborne District Council's Local Governance Statement.

Our Local Governance Statement outlines the democratic processes on how we engage with our community, how we make decisions, and how residents can be involved in decision making. This statement includes information about the roles and responsibilities of elected members and how they work with our chief executive and staff.

Te Kaunihera o Tairāwhiti are one of six unitary authorities in Aotearoa, giving us the combined functions, duties and powers of both a territorial authority (service delivery bodies) and a regional council (regulatory authorities). Our management and committee structures have been designed to separate our regulatory functions from other functions.

We hope that our Local Governance Statement helps to inform you about the ways that we operate and how you can be involved.

Tairāwhiti whakamaua kia tina!

Rehette Stoltz
Her Worship the Mayor





Ngā āheinga, ngā haepapa me ngā mahi a te Kaunihera

Functions, responsibilities and activities of Council

FUNCTIONS

The Gisborne District Council is one of six unitary authorities (also called unitary councils) in New Zealand. We have the combined functions, duties and powers of a territorial council and a regional council as outlined below:

Regional councils



BIOSECURITY

Control of regional plant and animal pests



CIVIL DEFENCE

Natural disasters, marine oil spills.



REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT

Planning and contracting of passenger services



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Quality of water, soil, coastal planning etc



RIVER MANAGEMENT

Flood control and mitigation of erosion

Territorial councils



COMMUNITY WELLBEING AND DEVELOPMENT

Including Advocacy, funding, partnerships and Council's Long Term Plan.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Including building control, and environmental health matters



INFRASTRUCTURE

Roading and transport, sewerage, water/ stormwater



RECREATION AND CULTURE

Includes parks, aquatics and community facilities.



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Including land-use planning and development control

RESPONSIBILITIES

Council has two key responsibilities outlined under [Section 10](#) of the LGA which are:

- to enable democratic decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, communities
- to promote the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future.

Councils are responsible to provide good quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory functions. The four wellbeings also recognise the major role councils play in enhancing community wellbeing and supporting overall quality of life.





ACTIVITIES OF COUNCIL

In order to perform our functions and responsibilities, Council undertakes many different activities.

While some are clearly visible to our communities such as the pool, library, parks and playgrounds, there are many other Council services and infrastructure that make a substantial contribution to our community's wellbeing like water supply, drainage, roads and working with community groups. Information is provided about these activities in our long term plan, annual plans, and annual reports.



View our latest [plans and reports](#) on our website for more information on the progress on these activities.

The activities of Council fall under the following categories:

Land, Rivers and Coastal

Roads and Footpaths

Solid Waste

Wastewater

Water Supply

Urban Stormwater

Commercial Operations

Environmental Services and Protection

- Building Consents
- Resource Consents
- Enforcement and Compliance
- Harbour Master

Liveable Communities

- Catchments, Biodiversity and Biosecurity
- Cultural Activities
- Recreation and Amenity

Regional Leadership and Support Services

- Emergency Management
- Engagement and Māori Responsiveness
- Governance and Democracy
- Science
- Strategic Policy and Planning
- Support Services





To mātau anga rautaki Our strategic framework

WHAT IS OUR STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK?

Council's 2021-2031 Long Term Plan (LTP) states the vision for the region, what the community wants to achieve community outcomes and strategic priorities. The LTP also sets out what the Council plans to do over the next ten years to contribute to those outcomes.

Council will have an opportunity to revisit the current strategic framework as we prepare for the 2024-2034 LTP to ensure alignment with the purpose of local government and changing outcomes and goals of our community.

OUR VISION

Tairāwhiti maranga ake! E tīmata ana i konei.
Tairāwhiti rise up! It all starts here.

***Me whiri ngātahi tātau i ngā
āheinga me ngā tauwhāinga kia whakahī ai te Iwi.***
*Let's navigate our opportunities and challenges together to
make our community proud.*



Ō TĀTAU PUTANGA HAPORI / OUR COMMUNITY OUTCOMES



A DRIVEN AND ENABLED COMMUNITY

Our whole community works together to achieve our dreams and aspirations.



RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Our economy, infrastructure and communities spring back from difficult situations. We care for and plan for future generations and act in partnership with our community.



VIBRANT CITY AND TOWNSHIPS

We live balanced and happy lives. Our city and townships are vibrant. We attract visitors from across Aotearoa and the world. Our rural townships have sustainable infrastructure and services and we all have bright futures.



CONNECTED AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

Our communities and businesses prosper. We've got a safe, efficient and integrated transport network. We invest in supplying safe walking, cycling and public transport, and we use new technologies to our advantage.



WE TAKE SUSTAINABILITY SERIOUSLY

We change the way we live and work in response to climate change. We work to lower carbon emissions and to improve our ecological footprint. We're more resilient, we end waste and we use our natural resources wisely.



WE CELEBRATE OUR HERITAGE

We're proud of and celebrate our Māori identity, culture, historic and natural heritage. We're all kaitiaki of our natural taonga which we protect for future generations.



A DIVERSE ECONOMY

We've got world class facilities and services. Our people are in high value jobs and have a great standard of living. We have a strong economy which encourages entrepreneurship, innovation and we use emerging technologies.



DELIVERING FOR AND WITH MĀORI

Iwi are significant partners in Council's decision-making. Māori communities and economies are booming, supported by affordable housing, quality infrastructure and fulfilling employment opportunities.

NGĀ MATUA RAUTAKI / OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



TE TAIAO

We will protect and enhance our environment and biodiversity.



TE HANGANGA

We will invest in existing and future core infrastructure needs, with a focus on adaptive, cost efficient and effective designs that enhance our sense of place and lifestyle.



NGĀ TIKANGA ĀWHINA TĀNGATA

We will efficiently deliver quality services that enable our communities.





Te whakamanatanga o Te Tiriti o Waitangi Giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Te Tiriti o Waitangi governs the relationship between Māori and the Crown and ensures the rights of Māori as tangata whenua are protected. Local government also has responsibilities to Māori under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and across varying legislation not limited to but including the LGA and the RMA.

STATUTORY ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti (Council) must have regard to statutory acknowledgements relating to a statutory area in deciding, under [Section 95E](#) of the RMA, whether the trustee is an affected person in respect of an application for a resource consent for an activity within, adjacent to, or that directly affects the statutory area. See our Statutory Acknowledgements and Statutory Areas on our [website](#).

JOINT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS

Te Kaunihera have many arrangements and forums in place where co-management, co-governance and joint decision-making occur. While Te Kaunihera are at the start of our Te Tiriti o Waitangi voyage and still have much to do internally and with iwi, our commitment to being a good Tiriti Partner and to embody and give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi in Tairāwhiti remains firm. See some examples of [iwi and hapū joint management plans](#) on our website.

COUNCIL'S KAUPAPA MĀORI POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

We have a policy and internal framework that guide us in our role as a Tiriti Partner with Māori.



View Council Kaupapa Māori policies on our website [Engaging Māori | Gisborne District Council \(gdc.govt.nz\)](#)

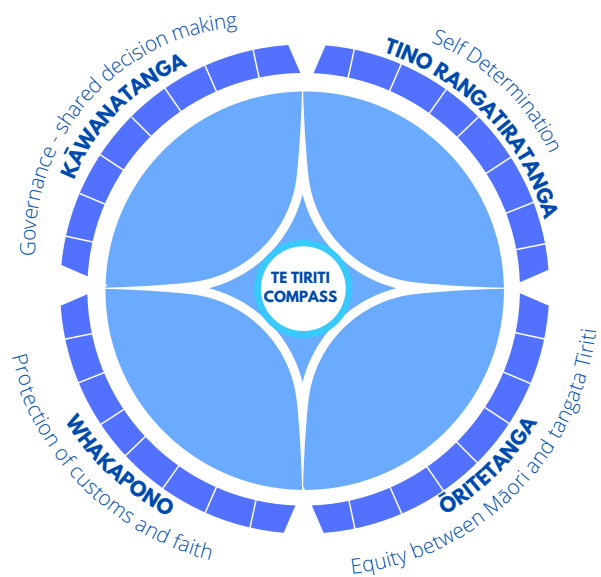
Te Tiriti o Waitangi Compass framework

The [Te Tiriti o Waitangi Compass](#) is an internally facing framework adopted by Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti (Council) on 29 September 2022. This tool will support organisational understanding and application of Te Tiriti o Waitangi across our mahi. Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti want to develop effective and meaningful collaboration with mana whenua. We want to ensure iwi and hapū have a long-term role in the future planning and decision-making for the region.

The four articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi have been used as the foundation for our Te Tiriti o Waitangi Compass.

Council's responsibilities as a Tiriti Partner, and our vision for the standard of partnership we desire, have been framed in response to the articles themselves. These being:

- **Kāwanatanga** - Governance
- **Tino Rangatiratanga** - Self Determination
- **Ōritetanga** - Equity
- **Whakapono** - Protection of customs and faith





The Te Tiriti o Waitangi Compass works alongside other relevant Council policy to enhance existing direction and improve future integration of advice on Te Tiriti o Waitangi partnership matters. Examples include Tairāwhiti Piritahi: Fostering Māori Participation in Council Decision Making, Significance and Engagement Policy and strategic outcomes and vision captured in our Long Term Plan.

Tairāwhiti Piritahi: Fostering Māori participation in Council decision-making

Our internal policy framework [Tairāwhiti Piritahi](#) provides high-level guidance to staff on our organisational expectations for building effective relationships with Māori at every level.

This policy promotes and facilitates Māori participation in Council’s decision-making processes, including a framework for building organisational capability and additional opportunities for Māori to contribute to Council’s decision-making processes. The policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- **Tika** – a shared commitment to “do the right thing” – morally and ethically – by making certain that everyone is treated with equal respect and fairness.
- **Pono** – a shared commitment to ensure informed decision-making is underpinned by, and made with, honesty, integrity and good faith.
- **Manaakitanga** – the mutual elevation of mana in encounters and when engaged in discourse as a means of seeking shared understanding based on the spirit of respect and dignity.
- **Kete mātauranga** – Council recognises that tangata whenua have an embodied set of expertise and skills in providing a Māori world view in decision-making processes.



View the full document on our [website](#).





Ngā ture, rautaki, kaupapa matua hei arahi i a mātau

Key legislation, strategies and policies that guide us

KEY LEGISLATION

The three key pieces of legislation that set out, what and how we operate as a local authorities are:

- [Local Government Act 2002 \(LGA\)](#) - sets out the purpose of local government in New Zealand. It gives us a framework and empowers us to decide which activities we undertake, how we undertake them, and makes us accountable to our communities.
- [Resource Management Act 1991 \(RMA\)](#) - how we manage our environment and prepare plans and policies.
- [Local Government \(Rating\) Act 2002](#) - flexible powers to set, assess, and collect rates to fund local government activities.

Council is subject to a wide range of different legislations (Acts) that other corporate bodies and individuals are subject to, for example Income Tax Act 2007, Employment Relations Act 2000, Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, and the Fair Trading Act 1986. View more information about other key Acts affecting local authorities at localcouncils.govt.nz

STRATEGIES, PLANS AND POLICIES

Council strategies and plans inform the strategic vision and work plan.

An important aspect of Council, in carrying out its roles and responsibilities, is developing and reviewing strategies, policies and plans. The strategies, policies and plans contribute to community wellbeing at the highest level.



View our current [strategies, plans and reports](#) on our website.





KEY PLANNING DOCUMENTS

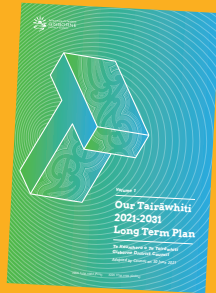
Our key strategic documents are requirements of the LGA.

These include the Long Term Plan, Annual Plan and Annual Report. Over the next three years we'll continue to report regularly where we're doing well, where there is room for improvement, and where changes are needed - being fully accountable and transparent to our community.

Long Term Plan (LTP) - [view current on our website](#)

The LTP is our strategic planning document and is reviewed every three years and sets out specific ten-year period:

- the activities, and projects we're planning
- how much they'll cost and how we'll pay for them
- an Infrastructure Strategy that outlines our plans for managing our infrastructure over a 30 year period
- a Financial Strategy that sets how we'll fund the activities and services Council provides along with how we'll manage the assets of the region in a financially sustainable way
- the Infrastructure Strategy and Financial Strategy must align closely.



Annual Plan - [view current on our website](#)

The Annual Plan is prepared in the second and third year of the LTP and sets out:

- what we're planning to achieve in years two and three
- our major projects, activities, services, and financial information for a specific year
- how much these cost, and how we plan on funding them
- the effect on rates and the Council's finances
- when there are significant changes or variations from the LTP we consult with the community and include these variations in the Annual Plan.



Annual Report - [view current on our website](#)

The Annual Report is our key accountability document that reports our progress compared to what we set out in our Annual Plan. It tells the financial story of our performance over the past financial year to:

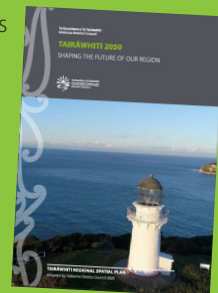
- Inform our communities about how we spent rates
- highlight areas we performed well in and the areas where we need to improve
- provide context for where we need to head in the future.



Tairāwhiti Regional Spatial Plan - [view current on our website](#)

Tairāwhiti 2050 is Gisborne District Council's vision for the region for the next 30 years. We'll review this plan every 5 years to ensure we remain on track and respond appropriately to changing trends, needs and environments. We call this our "spatial plan", which is a document that:

- states our region's major challenges and how we'll tackle them.
- outlines our shared aspirations for our region's future wellbeing and what we expect to achieve by 2050.
- aligns the strategies and plans of Council, government agencies, and other organisations to enable collaboration.
- sets the direction for regional planning and development, decision-making, and investments.
- maps out where critical infrastructure, transport connections, and development will occur and where there are constraints.





Annual Residents Satisfaction Survey (RSS)

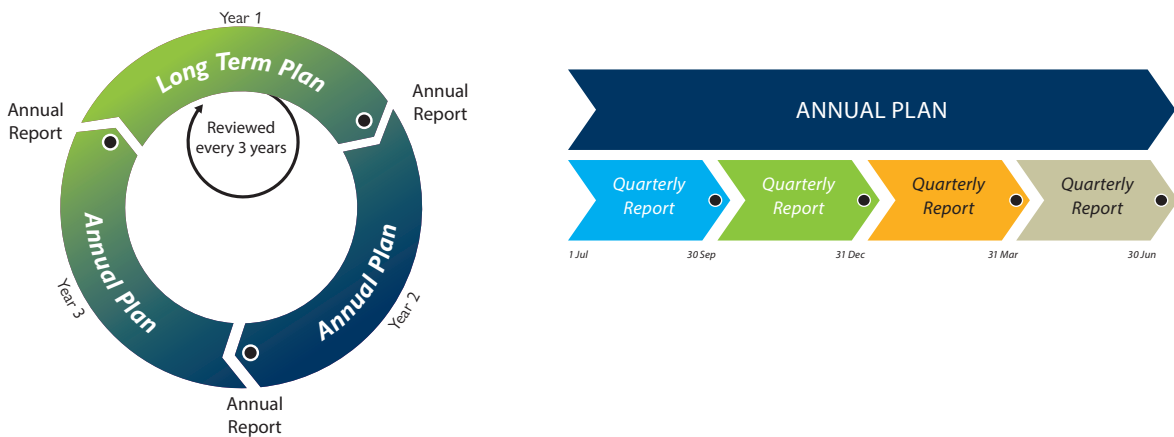
The Annual RSS is our key measurement tool that reports our service and performance levels. We carry out independent resident satisfaction surveys to find out how satisfied residents are with our resources, facilities, and services while always looking for improvement opportunities.

The RSS results help to give us an insight into the utilisation of facilities and services, the degree of customer satisfaction, and how the community thinks we're performing.

This helps to ensure that we deliver what we said we would and that we improve performance in areas where it's required.

OUR PLANNING AND REPORTING LIFE CYCLE

This is how the Long Term Plan, Annual Plan, Annual Report and Quarterly reporting work together.



BYLAWS

Bylaws are rules or regulations created to make our city and district a safe and healthy place.

[Section 145](#) of the LGA provides for councils to make bylaws for the following purposes:

- protecting the public from nuisance
- protecting, promoting and maintaining public health and safety
- minimising the potential for offensive behaviour in public places.

Gisborne District Council consults with the community before adopting any new bylaw or reviewing an existing bylaw. View and participate in reviewing the bylaws at [‘Kōrero mai/Have your say’](#) on our website.

SCHEDULE OF BYLAWS

Here is a list of our current bylaws. View full bylaw descriptions on our [website](#).

- Alcohol Control Bylaw 2015
- Cemeteries and Crematoria Bylaw 2015
- Dog Control Bylaw 2010
- Food Hygiene Bylaw 2014
- Freedom Camping Bylaw 2021
- Keeping of Animals, Poultry and Bees Bylaw 2012
- Mobile Shops and Other Traders Bylaw 2014
- Navigation and Safety Bylaw 2012
- Public Places Bylaw 2015
- Reserves Bylaw 2015
- Speed Limits Bylaw 2013
- Stock Control Bylaw 2017
- Trade Waste Bylaw 2021
- Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2021
- Water Supply Bylaw 2015





Ngā kaupapa here whakaōrite whiwhinga mahi Equal employment opportunity policies

OUR TIKANGA

At Council we have an overarching foundational document “Our Tikanga”

This guides how we work together to achieve our strategic objectives and vision for Tairāwhiti. We expect all staff to comply with our tikanga, commitments, policies and procedures and act in accordance with NZ legislation.

Full relevant and associated documents are:

- Harassment, Bullying and Discrimination Commitment
- Flexible Working and Whānau Friendly Commitment
- Remuneration, Reward and Performance Commitment
- Health and Safety Policy
- Drug and Alcohol Policy
- Leave Policy
- Code of Behaviour and Disciplinary Procedure
- Information Services Policy
- Salaried Officers Collective Employment Agreement 2021-2022 pursuant to the Employment Relations Act 2000.





Te uiuinga me te tūtakina hapori Consultation and community engagement

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Section 78, 81 and 82 of the LGA requires local authorities carry out consultation for decision-making:

- when Council makes significant decisions, to give consideration to the views and preferences of affected people
- when undertaking consultation, to do so in accordance with the principles of consultation in the Act
- Māori must have the opportunity to contribute to decision-making.

Council's consultation and community engagement focus is an important function as the greater the participation levels, the more likely it is that we'll make well-informed decisions that will match the aspirations of our community. In person, in print and online, we aim to provide opportunities for people to have their say.

SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURES (SCP)

The LGA outlines the minimum steps that Council must undertake with a particular decision that may have high significance to the community, and may have major implications (such as financial).

Section 83 of the LGA requires steps include:

- Preparing a statement of proposal.
- Providing a summary of the information.
- Notifying the public via newspapers of the proposal and consultation being undertaken.
- Acknowledging all submissions in writing.
- Giving each submitter an opportunity to be heard publicly.

THE LAW REQUIRES US TO ADOPT THE SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE FOR:	
Adopting and amending our Long Term Plan	Other Acts if expressly required by law
Making, amending or revoking a plan, policy or bylaw considered to be significant under this policy	Transferring Council's ownership or control of strategic assets
	Adopting the Treasury Management Policy

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY

The Significance and Engagement Policy formally outlines our commitment to public participation in decision-making. [Section 76AA](#) of the LGA requires Council to adopt a [Significance and Engagement Policy](#) that guides how and when we engage with our communities about important Council matters.

HAVE YOUR SAY

We offer several ways for the public to participate in decision-making in Tairāwhiti.

To see how you can have your say on Council plans, policies and projects see ['Kōrero mai/Have your say'](#) on our website.

Other consultation opportunities include:

- Long term plans – created every three years (next one in 2024).
- Annual plans – created every year in between the long-term plans.
- Representation reviews – reviewed every six years (the next one in 2027).
- City plan reviews – last reviewed in 2013 (next review to be notified in 2024).





Te tikanga pōti me te kōwhiringa whakarerekē

The electoral system and the opportunity to change it

WHAT IS AN ELECTORAL SYSTEM?

An electoral system describes the system used for voting at local authority elections.

The Local Electoral Act 2001 provides for two types of electoral systems.

- First Past the Post (FPP).
- Single Transferable Voting (STV).

For more information about these electoral systems visit localcouncils.govt.nz

OUR CURRENT ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Council currently operates its elections under the Single Transferrable Voting (STV) electoral system.

For more information on Single Transferrable Voting (STV) electoral system go to stv.govt.nz

CHANGING THE ELECTORAL SYSTEM

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, Council can resolve to change the electoral system in the following ways:

- Council can resolve to change the system to be used at the next two elections, or Council can conduct a binding poll
- electors can demand a binding poll.

In the latter case, 5% or more of registered electors need to sign a petition demanding that a poll be held. Once changed, an electoral system must be used for at least the next two triennial elections, i.e. we can't change our electoral system for one election and then change back for the next election.

LOCAL AUTHORITY ELECTIONS

Elections of members of local councils are held once every three years on the second Saturday in October.

Triennial elections for elected members of all local authorities throughout New Zealand were conducted on 8 October 2022. Council currently operates its elections under the STV electoral system.





Ngā whakaritenga whakaahuahanga Representation arrangements

WHAT ARE REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS?

Representation arrangements relate to the way that councillors and local board members are elected.

Local authorities are required to review representation arrangements at least once every period of six years.

All territorial authorities are required under [Sections 19H](#) and [19J](#) of the Local Electoral Act to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years. These reviews ensure Council representation is fair, effective and meets the needs of our communities.

OUR CURRENT REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

Council's current representation arrangements include a mayor and 13 councillors.

On 7 April 2022, the Local Government Commission released its determination for the election of the Gisborne District Council held on 8 October 2022.



View the [determination of the Local Government Commission](#) on our website.





OUR WARDS

The councillors represent two wards of the district – The Tairāwhiti Māori Ward and The Tairāwhiti General Ward. The Tairāwhiti Māori Ward has five councillors, and the Tairāwhiti General Ward has eight councillors. While the councillors have been elected from their respective wards, they have an obligation and a duty to represent the interests of the district as a whole.

WARD	COUNCILLORS	RESIDENT ELECTORS
Tairāwhiti Māori Ward	5	11,042
Tairāwhiti General Ward	8	23,428
Total	13	34,470



REVIEW OF REPRESENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The Council must follow the procedure set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001 when conducting this review. It should also follow guidelines published by the Local Government Commission. The Act gives electors the right to make a written submission to Council, and the right to speak to the submission at a hearing.

Electors have the right to appeal any decisions on the above to the Local Government Commission, which will make a binding decision on the appeal. Further details on the matters Council must consider in reviewing its membership and basis of election are found in the Local Electoral Act 2001.

A review must include the following:

- the number of elected members
- whether the elected members (other than the mayor) shall be elected by the entire district, or continue to be elected by their ward (or a mix of both systems)
- the boundaries and names of those wards and the number of members that will represent each ward (if election by wards is preferred)
- whether or not to have separate Māori wards
- whether to have Community Boards and if so how many, their boundaries and membership and whether to subdivide a community for electoral purposes.

MĀORI WARDS

The Local Electoral Act 2001 gives Council the ability to establish separate wards for Māori electors to provide opportunities for Māori to contribute to Council's decision making processes.

On 23 November 2020, the Council resolved to establish a Māori ward for the 2022 and 2025 triennial elections. As a result, five Māori ward councillors were voted in the Tairāwhiti 2022 Local Elections.

Māori wards may be established through one of the following processes:

- A council may resolve to establish Māori wards.
- A council may decide to hold a non-binding poll on whether there should be Māori wards.

Candidates in Māori wards don't have to be of Māori descent. The law only requires that a person is eligible to stand for election and that they're nominated by two electors on the Māori electoral roll within the respective area that they're standing for.

For further information on Māori wards visit Taituarā's [Guidance on the Māori Ward](#).





Ngā mahi me te whanonga o ngā mema

The role and conduct of elected members

COUNCIL

The elected Council consists of the mayor and 13 councillors including the deputy mayor.

The councillors cover the district as a whole area (wards) and have an obligation and a duty to represent the interests of the district as a whole. Councillors have a key role in engaging with their local communities, advocating on behalf of others and raising any issues that need to be addressed.

MAYOR

The mayor's role under Section 41A of the LGA is to:

- Provide leadership to the other elected members and people in the district.
- Lead the development of plans, policies and budgets for consideration by other elected members.
- Lead the development of the council's plans (including the long-term plan, annual plan, policies and budgets).

The mayor also has the following role and powers:

- to appoint the deputy mayor
- to establish committees of the territorial authority
- to appoint the chairperson of each committee (which may be him or herself)
- to serve as a member of each Council committee
- to preside at Council meetings
- the mayor is responsible for ensuring the orderly conduct of business during meetings (as determined in Standing Orders)
- spokesperson for the Council
- advocate on behalf of the community
- Justice of the Peace.

Mayors, like councillors, are elected by their district for a three-year term.

The mayor must follow the same rules as other elected members about making public statements and committing the Council to a particular course of action, unless acting under a delegation of authority from the Council and in accordance with the rules for media contact on behalf of the Council.

DEPUTY MAYOR

The deputy mayor may be appointed by the mayor or elected by the Council members at the first meeting of Council. If the mayor is absent or incapacitated, the deputy mayor must perform all of the responsibilities and duties and may exercise the powers of the mayor. The deputy mayor may be removed from office by a Council resolution.





COUNCILLORS

Councillors are elected to represent their communities for a three-year term.

There is no limit on the number of terms they may serve.

You can contact the Mayor and councillors at any time to discuss your ideas, issues or concerns.

For [Mayor and Councillors' details](#) visit our website.

CODE OF CONDUCT - NGĀ TIKANGA ARATAKI - ETHICS AND VALUES FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

Councillors, as individuals, must comply with the requirements of the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct adopted by Council on 17 November 2022, sets out the understandings and expectations agreed by the elected members of the Gisborne District Council.



View the [Code of conduct](#) on our website.





Ngā hanga kāwanatanga, ngā mema, ngā haepapa me ngā apārangi

Governance structures, membership, responsibilities and delegations

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Elected councils can create subordinate decision-making structures such as committees.

Committees can be established or disestablished by way of a resolution of Council. Committees have the authority to consider all matters coming within their scope as detailed in [The Governance Structures and Terms of Reference](#) adopted by Council on 2 March 2023.

For further information about how a council can structure itself visit localcouncils.govt.nz

COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

Council

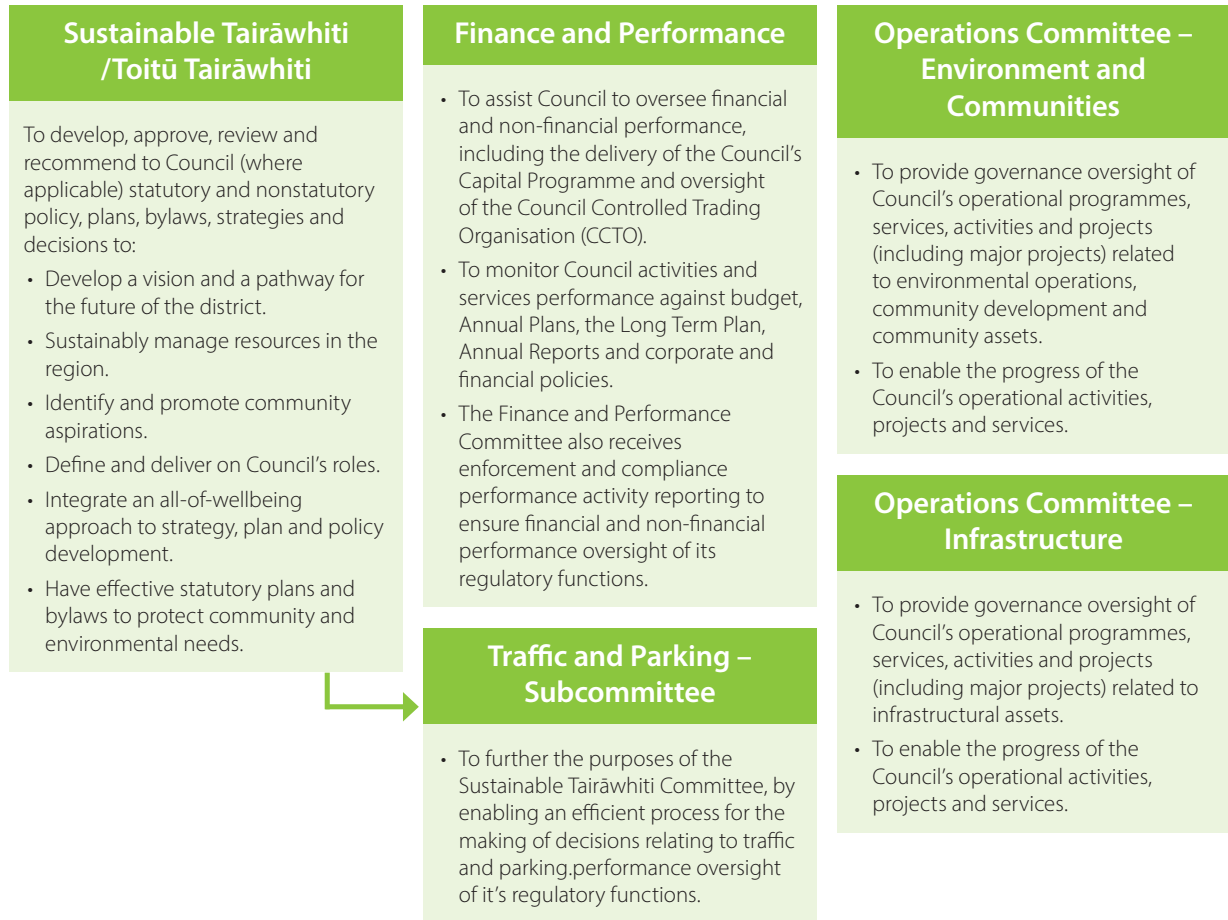
The Council's terms of reference include the following powers which have not been delegated to committees, subcommittees, officers or any other subordinate decision-making body, and any other powers that are not legally able to be delegated:

- The power to make a rate.
- The power to make a bylaw.
- The power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan.
- The power to adopt a Long Term Plan, Annual Plan, or Annual Report.
- The power to appoint a Chief Executive.
- The power to adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the Long Term Plan or developed for the purpose of the Local Governance Statement.
- The power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy.
- Committee Terms of Reference and Delegations for the 2019–2022 Triennium.
- The power to approve or amend the Council's Standing Orders.
- The power to approve or amend the Code of Conduct for elected members.
- The power to appoint and discharge members of Committees.
- The power to establish a joint committee with another local authority or other public body.
- The power to make the final decision on a recommendation from the Ombudsman where it is proposed that Council not accept the recommendation.
- The power to make any resolutions that must be made by a local authority under the Local Electoral Act 2001, including the appointment of an electoral officer.
- Consider any matters referred to it from any of the Committees.
- Authorise all expenditure not delegated to staff or other Committees.
- Council's terms of reference also includes oversight of the organisation's compliance with health and safety obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.





Committees of the Whole





Standing committees

<h3>Audit and Risk</h3> <p>To assist the Council to exercise due care, diligence and skill in relation to the oversight of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the robustness of the internal control framework• the integrity and appropriateness of external reporting, and accountability arrangements within the organisation for these functions• the robustness of risk management systems, process and practices• internal and external audit• accounting practice and, where relevant, accounting policy• health, safety and wellbeing• compliance with applicable laws, regulations, standards and best practice guidelines for public entities• the establishment and maintenance of controls to safeguard the Council's financial and non-financial assets. <p>The Audit and Risk Committee Chair is responsible for submitting an annual report to the Council covering the Committee's operations and activities during the preceding year.</p>	<h3>Wastewater Management</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The establishment of this Committee is a requirement of the conditions of the resource consents for the upgrade and discharge of Gisborne's municipal wastewater.• On 21 September 2007 the Minister of Conservation granted the coastal permit for the discharge of treated wastewater to the marine area subject to the same conditions as recommended by the Hearings Committee	<h3>Chief Executive Performance</h3> <p>The Chief Executive Performance Committee considers and reports to the Council on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overseeing the performance of the Chief Executive in line with the performance agreement and his/her ongoing relationship with the Council, and report regularly to the Council on his/her performance.• Facilitating regular performance reviews of the Chief Executive and reporting on a regular basis to the Council.• Undertaking reviews of the Chief Executive's remuneration package in accordance with the employment agreement and make recommendations to the Council.• Engaging relevant external advice – including independent legal advice to assist the committee with all or any of these matters, as appropriate, ensuring such advisors are not otherwise contracted to the Council for similar services.• Matters relating to succession planning and the appointment of a Chief Executive, as may be necessary from time to time, including:• Overseeing the recruitment and selection process for a Chief Executive• Recommending candidates and remuneration to the Council for consideration.
<h3>Bylaw Submissions Hearings Panel</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decide matters which Council may delegate only to a committee of Council under the Local Government Act 2002• Act as a panel of candidates that may be appointed to a Hearing Panel (for matters that are not required to be heard or decided by a committee).	<h3>Regulatory Hearings Panel</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To conduct hearings and/or determine under delegated authority applications for consent and all other matters required to be heard and determined by way of hearing under the Resource Management Act 1991.	<h3>Appointments</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oversees and manages recruitment and selection process of Council appointments to other bodies.
<h3>Emergency</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To determine matters within the authority of Council where the urgency of those matters precludes a full meeting of the Council, or emergency legislation is enacted.	<h3>Conduct Review</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct investigations and make recommendations regarding Councillors' compliance with the Code of Conduct, as set out in the Code of Conduct.	





Statutory committees

Regional Transport

Under s 106 of the Land Transport Management Act 2003, the purpose of the committee is to:

- To prepare a regional land transport plan, or any variation to the plan, for the approval of the Council.
- To provide the Council with any advice and assistance the Council may request in relation to its transport responsibilities.

Civil Defence and Emergency Management

- To perform the functions of a Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group required under section 12(1)(b) of the Civil Defence and Emergency Management Act 2002 (the Act).
- To ensure that appropriate emergency management as detailed in the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (the Act) is carried out within the Gisborne District.
- Provide governance and oversight of the activities required to be undertaken on its behalf by the Act.

District Licensing

- To perform the independent statutory functions of a District Licensing Committee under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 (SSA).

Local Leadership Body (LLB)

The Local Leadership Body is a statutory body established as a permanent joint committee of the Council under the Ngai Tāmanuhiri Claims Settlement Act 2012. Its purpose is to:

- contribute to the sustainable management of the natural and physical resources in the LLB area for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations, while recognising and providing for the traditional relationship of Ngai Tāmanuhiri, Rongowhakaata, and Te Aitanga a Māhaki and Affiliates with their ancestral lands, water, sites, wāhi tapu, and other taonga
- to enable individuals and communities within the LLB area, as resources allow:
 - to provide for their social, economic, and cultural well-being
 - to achieve improved outcomes in respect of the environment.
- to ensure that the Council is appropriately informed of its statutory obligations within the LLB area, including obligations in respect of Te Tiriti o Waitangi arising under the Local Government Act 2002 and the Resource Management Act 1991 and any other relevant enactment.





Ngā tukanga whakahaere hui

Meeting processes

LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The legal requirements for Council meetings are set down in the LGA and the LGOIMA.

The Local Government Official Information Act (LGOIMA) contains a list of the circumstances where Councils may consider items with the public excluded. These circumstances generally relate to protection of personal privacy, professionally privileged or commercially sensitive information and, the maintenance of public health, safety and order.

COUNCIL MEETINGS

Meetings are held every six weeks (or as required).

Meetings are held at our administration building, Awarua, at 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne. Information on past and upcoming meetings can be found on our website.

Anyone can attend a Council meeting. You're welcome to listen, but you cannot interrupt or make a comment during the meeting. All our Council and committee meetings are live-streamed **and then available on [YouTube](#).**

STANDING ORDERS

Council is required to adopt a set of Standing Orders for the conduct of its meetings and those of its committees.

On 17 November 2022, Council adopted the current Standing Orders until a review is complete in 2023. The review will incorporate an in-depth Treaty Compass lens.

GIVING NOTICE

For an ordinary meeting of Council, at least 14 days' notice of the time and place of the meeting must be given.

Extraordinary meetings can generally be called on three working days' notice.

AGENDAS AND MINUTES

The Council agenda is a public document that sets out what will be discussed at a meeting.

Agendas are made publicly available at least two working days before the meeting. Minutes of meetings must be kept and made publicly available, subject to LGOIMA requirements for public excluded minutes.

SPEAKING AT PUBLIC MEETINGS

If you would like to speak at a meeting visit ['Attending a meeting'](#) on our website.

Members of the public may have speaking rights after prior arrangements are made with the Council.

Meetings are publicly notified and conducted in accordance with the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. The chairperson is responsible for maintaining order at meetings. At his/her discretion, order the removal of any member of the public for disorderly conduct, or remove any member of Council who doesn't comply with Standing Orders.





Te tono mo ngā kōrero ōkawa

Official information requests

MAKE A REQUEST

Official information refers to all information held by a local authority.

Under the [Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987](#), any person may request information from Council.

Council must decide whether the request is to be granted no later than 20 working dates after the day on which the request was received. Unless reason exists for withholding information or if your request is complex, involves a large amount of research and collation, or requires us to consult with other parties.

If we can't provide you with the information within 20 days, we may extend the time limit and we'll let you know if we need to do this. If your request is more urgent, you'll need to give reasons and explain the urgency.

Information may be withheld if it would:

- Prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial.
- Endanger the safety of any person.
- Compromise the privacy of any person.
- Reveal confidential or commercially sensitive information.
- Cause offence to Tikanga Māori or would disclose the location of wāhi tapu.
- Prejudice public health or safety.
- Compromise legal professional privilege.
- Disadvantage the local authority while carrying out negotiations or commercial activities.
- Allow information to be used for improper gain or advantage.

Generally, there is no charge for a request.

However, if your request is for a significant amount of information, or requires substantial collation and research, we are entitled to charge based on guidelines from the Ministry of Justice.

Council is committed to promoting openness and transparency in all our dealings and we make a large amount of information available. You can make a request using the following options:

Online - fill in a form [online](#)

Email us - service@gdc.govt.nz

Phone us - 0800 653 800 or +64 06 867 2049

In person - 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

Post your request - Gisborne District Council, PO Box 747, Gisborne 4010

View more information on making request on our [website](#).

PERSONAL INFORMATION

An individual has the right to request information held by Council about themselves without charge. Special rules govern the right of access to personal information by individuals. The [Privacy Act 2020](#) governs the collection, use and disclosure of personal information.





Tō mātou rōpū Our organisation

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Section 42 of the LGA requires the elected Council to employ one employee 'The Chief Executive'.

Our chief executive is Nedine Thatcher Swann. The chief executive is the only person who may lawfully give instructions to a staff member. Any complaint about an individual staff member should therefore be directed to the chief executive, rather than councillors or mayor.



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Our Management Team

The chief executive is responsible for implementing and managing Council's policies and objectives within the budgetary constraints established by the Council. Six directors are employed by the chief executive and make up our management team [COR \(Central Organising Rōpū\)](#). This includes 395 employed staff employed by the chief executive, that carry out the day-to-day operations of Council activities and provide advice to the Council.

<p>Anita Reedy-Holthausen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication and Engagement • Māori Responsiveness • Customer Experience • Township Officers • Culture and Development • Funding and Contracts 	<p>Michele Frey</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community assets and Resources • Liveable Spaces • Integrated Catchments • Cultural Activities 	<p>James Baty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People and Capability • Home Safe • Democracy Support Services • Information Services • Legal • Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement 
<p>Joanna Noble</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Planning • Environmental Monitoring and Science • Resource Consents 	<p>David Wilson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four Waters • Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) • Journeys • Solid Waste • Building Services • Harbour Master 	<p>Pauline Foreman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Services • Risk and Performance 





HYPERLINK REFERENCES

- Page 3** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM171856.html>
- Page 7** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM171803.html>
- Page 8** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws>
- Page 11** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/44901/Te-Tiriti-Compass-29-09-22-A2687132.pdf
- Page 11** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/kaupapa-maori/engaging-maori>
- Page 11** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/kaupapa-maori/iwi-and-hapu-joint-management-plans>
- Page 11** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/kaupapa-maori/statutory-acknowledgements>
- Page 11** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1991/0069/latest/DLM2416413.html>
- Page 12** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/20628/Tairawhiti-Piritahi-Fostering-Maori-Participation-in-Council-Decision-Making-Policy-2021.pdf
- Page 12** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/kaupapa-maori/engaging-maori>
- Page 13** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws>
- Page 13** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1991/0069/latest/DLM230265.html>
- Page 13** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0006/latest/DLM131394.html>
- Page 13** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/whole.html>
- Page 13** <https://www.localcouncils.govt.nz/>
- Page 14** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0023/12686/tairawhiti-2050-spatial-plan-shaping-the-future-of-our-region.pdf
- Page 14** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/2021-2031-long-term-plan>
- Page 14** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/2020-21-annual-report>
- Page 14** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/2022-23-annual-plan>
- Page 15** <https://participate.gdc.govt.nz/>
- Page 15** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/plans-policies-and-bylaws/bylaws>
- Page 15** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM172978.html>
- Page 17** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/11319/Significance-and-Engagement-Policy-2021.pdf
- Page 17** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/have-your-say>
- Page 17** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM6236805.html>
- Page 18** <https://www.localcouncils.govt.nz/>
- Page 18** <https://www.stv.govt.nz/index.shtml>
- Page 19** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2001/0035/latest/DLM93477.html>
- Page 19** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2001/0035/latest/DLM93481.html>
- Page 19** <https://www.lgc.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/Gisborne-District-determination-2022.pdf>
- Page 20** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0018/38106/GDC-Maori-Ward-Guide-2022.pdf
- Page 22** https://www.gdc.govt.nz/__data/assets/pdf_file/0012/6051/Gisborne-District-Council-Nga-Tikanga-Arataki-Ethics-and-Values-for-Elected-Members-2021.pdf
- Page 22** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/mayor-and-councillors/councillor-profiles>
- Page 23** <https://www.localcouncils.govt.nz/>
- Page 27** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/meetings/attending-a-meeting>
- Page 27** <https://www.youtube.com/@GisborneDC/featured>
- Page 28** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/contact-us>
- Page 28** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/contact-us/efix-form>
- Page 28** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/1987/0174/latest/DLM122242.html>
- Page 28** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2020/0031/latest/LMS23223.html>
- Page 29** <https://www.gdc.govt.nz/council/our-management-team>
- Page 29** <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2002/0084/latest/DLM171859.html>
- Page 31** <http://gpl.govt.nz>
- Page 31** <http://www.facebook.com/GisborneDC>
- Page 31** <http://www.gdc.govt.nz>



WHAKAPĀ MAI CONTACT US

-  15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne 4010
4746 Waiapu Road, Te Puia Springs 4079
-  www.gdc.govt.nz
-  service@gdc.govt.nz
-  0800 653 800 | (+64 06) 867 2049
-  www.facebook.com/GisborneDC
-  PO Box 747

Our customer service is available to help with any enquiry. Our business hours are Monday to Friday 9am – 5pm.

The Mayor - mayor@gdc.govt.nz

The Chief Executive - ceo@gdc.govt.nz

Media Contacts - comms@gdc.govt.nz

HB Williams Memorial Library - www.gpl.govt.nz



GDC Fix App is a smartphone app to report issues to Council. The app identifies the location using the phone's GPS. It sends an email to us from the user's email address, including the details about the issue and a photo.



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

11. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for INFORMATION



23-98

Title: 23-98 2022 Triennial Elections
Section: Democracy & Support Services
Prepared by: Heather Kohn - Democracy & Support Services Manager
Meeting Date: Thursday 18 May 2023

Legal: Yes

Financial: Yes

Significance: **Low**

Report to COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA for information

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to receive the summary of the 2022 Triennial Election from the Electoral Officer Dale Ofsoske.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

The 2022 local government triennial elections occurred on Saturday 8 October 2022. The elections for Gisborne District Council were conducted satisfactorily and on time and met all legislative and practical requirements.

The report from the Electoral Officer summarises the electoral process (**Attachment 1**).

The major difference for these elections was the decision to adopt the STV (single transferrable voting) for the 2022 triennial election and the establishment of two wards the Tairāwhiti Māori Ward and the Tairāwhiti General Ward. These wards comprised five and eight councillors respectively.

No election was required for the Tairāwhiti District Health Board following the establishment of a new national health system 1 July 2022.

Council actively promoted the new wards and STV to fulfil the requirement under the Local Electoral Act 2001 for the Chief Executive to increase voter participation. Our strategy was to target youth and Māori, both of whom are under-represented in voting statistics.

Our campaign was called **Karangatia rā** - which was a call to the people of Tairāwhiti encouraging us all to take action – to **STAND** as candidates and **VOTE** on election day. A summary of the campaign story can be found in **Attachment 2**.

Early engagement with our iwi partners resulted in utilisation of iwi communication channels in addition to our own.

Council's channels of engagement included Face Book, Council's website (including videos), He Panui, local radio, the local newspaper, posters in our rural communities, printed & digital billboards and bus backs **Attachments 3-7**.

For the first time ballot boxes were placed in Wharekahika, Te Araroa, Ruatorea, Tokomaru Bay, Uawa, Te Karaka and Matawai with a duly declared Electoral Official in each location. Council electoral officials visited these sites twice to take special votes during the voting period.

Council participated in the Local Government New Zealand/Taituara national VOTE 2022 campaign, and we were able to use our own imagery.

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 Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

Authorised by:

James Baty - Director Internal Partnerships

Keywords:2022, triennial, elections

NEXT STEPS - NGĀ MAHI E WHAI AKE

Date	Action/Milestone	Comments
By 12 September 2023	Consider whether Council retains the single transferrable vote electoral system or returns to first past the post.	10 August 2023 Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS - NGĀ TĀPIRITANGA

1. Attachment 1 - 2022 Territorial Authority - Final Report - Gisborne District Council [**23-98.1** - 14 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - The story behind Karangatia rā 2022 FINAL [**23-98.2** - 1 page]
3. Attachment 3 - Karangatia rā advertising STAND assets June July 2022 [**23-98.3** - 3 pages]
4. Attachment 4 - Karangatia rā advertising EDUCATE assets Aug 2022 [**23-98.4** - 4 pages]
5. Attachment 5 - Karangatia rā advertising VOTE assets Sept Oct 2022 [**23-98.5** - 9 pages]
6. Attachment 6 - Karangatia rā Other assets [**23-98.6** - 3 pages]
7. Attachment 7 - Karangatia rā 2022 Update to LGNZ [**23-98.7** - 1 page]

Election Services

Level 2, 198 Federal Street, Auckland
PO Box 5135, Victoria Street West
Auckland 1142
Phone: 64 9 973 5212
Email: info@electionservices.co.nz

Report to the
Gisborne District Council
regarding the

2022 Triennial Elections

From the
Electoral Officer

20 March 2023



Table of Contents

Outline 2

Background..... 2

Narrative..... 2

Upcoming Issues..... 7

Summary and Conclusions 8

APPENDIX 1..... 9

APPENDIX 2..... 10

APPENDIX 3..... 13

Outline

The 2022 local government triennial elections occurred on Saturday 8 October 2022. The elections for Gisborne District Council were conducted satisfactorily and on time and met all legislative and practical requirements.

This report summaries the electoral process.

Background

Local government elections are required to be conducted every three years, with the 2022 election occurring on Saturday 8 October 2022. The conduct of these elections is prescribed by legislation and regulation to ensure public confidence and electoral integrity are maintained.

The following preliminary actions/decisions were made:

- (i) in 2020, Council resolved to adopt the STV (single transferrable voting) electoral system for the 2022 triennial election;
- (ii) in 2021, Council resolved to establish one or more Māori wards for the 2022 and 2025 triennial elections;
- (iii) in 2021, Council undertook a representation arrangements review (a review of wards, boundaries, number of elected members etc). The final proposal comprised the mayor and 13 councillors elected from two wards;
- (iv) postal voting to be used;
- (v) the random order of candidate names to be used;
- (vi) no election was required for the Tairāwhiti District Health Board.

The electoral officer appointed for the Gisborne District Council is Dale Ofsoske of Election Services and the appointed deputy electoral officer is Heather Kohn of Gisborne District Council.

With the 2022 elections now complete, this report details the various electoral processes undertaken, together with election statistics for the information of Council.

Narrative

Elections Required

Elections were undertaken for:

Gisborne District Council

- mayor (elected at large)
- eight councillors elected from the Tairāwhiti General Ward
- five councillors elected from the Tairāwhiti Māori Ward

Election Timetable

Key election functions and dates were:

Nomination period

15 July – 12 August 2022

Inspection of Preliminary Electoral Roll

15 July – 12 August 2022

Delivery of voting mailers

16-21 September 2022

Special voting/early processing

16 September – 8 October 2022

Election day

8 October 2022

Preliminary count

9 October 2022

Official count

9-14 October 2022

Return of Electoral Donations & Expenses Form

by 9 December 2022

Electoral Roll

The electoral roll comprises two parts, the Residential Electoral Roll and the non-resident Ratepayer Electoral Roll.

The Residential Electoral Roll contains parliamentary electors, whose details are maintained and supplied by the Electoral Commission.

Each territorial authority is responsible for compiling its own non-resident Ratepayer Electoral Roll.

To compile the Ratepayer Electoral Roll, three actions are required:

- (i) issuing an explanatory ratepayer roll flyer with all rates notices;
- (ii) a nationwide advertising campaign on the criteria of ratepayer elector qualifications and enrolment procedures; and
- (iii) the issuing of Ratepayer Confirmation Forms to all eligible 2019 Ratepayer Electoral Roll electors, and if returned, these along with any new enrolments, form the basis of the 2022 Ratepayer Electoral Roll.

A national advertising campaign was undertaken by Taituarā during May 2022 advising readers in all major daily newspapers of the criteria and qualifications required to be eligible for the Ratepayer Electoral Roll. A 0800 free-phone service was again used as a national helpline for ratepayer roll enquiries.

In April 2022, 84 Ratepayer Roll Confirmation Forms were issued to eligible 2019 Ratepayer Electoral Roll electors. A total of 52 non-resident ratepayer electors appeared on the 2022 Final Ratepayer Electoral Roll.

Preliminary and Final Electoral Rolls

The Preliminary and Final Electoral Rolls contained elector details in alphabetical order with a flag denoting voting ward entitlement.

The Preliminary Electoral Roll was available for public inspection during normal office hours between 15 July 2022 and 12 August 2022 from:

- Council's Main Office, 15 Fitzherbert Road, Gisborne
- Te Puia Springs Service Centre, 4746 Waiapu Road, Te Puia Springs.

Statistics relating to the Final Electoral Roll are:

Ward	Final Roll		
	No. Residents	No. Ratepayers	Total
Tairāwhiti General	23,050	41	23,091
Tairāwhiti Māori	10,846	11	10,857
TOTAL	33,896	52	33,948

The total number of electors of 33,948 is an increase of 1,440 (+4.4%) when compared to the 2019 Final Electoral Roll of 32,508.

Nominations

The nomination period was 15 July to noon 12 August 2022.

Nomination material was available during this time from:

- Council's Main Office, 15 Fitzherbert Road, Gisborne;
- Te Puia Springs Service Centre, 4746 Waiapu Road, Te Puia Springs;
- downloading the material from the Council's website;
- contacting the electoral office to have the material emailed or posted out.

A detailed '2022 Candidate Information Handbook' was prepared and made available to all candidates, any interested party (e.g. media) and available online. The handbook contained relevant information about the Council and its electoral process to potential candidates.

A total of 42 nominations were received for the 14 vacancies, these being:

Issue	No. Nominations	No. Vacancies
Mayor	4	1
Tairāwhiti General	25	8
Tairāwhiti Māori	13	5
Total	42	14

The 42 nominations received for mayor and council vacancies compares with 38 nominations received at the 2019 election (+10.5%).

For candidate names, refer Notice of Day of Election - **Appendix 2**.

Voting Mailers

Voting mailers consisting of an outward envelope, return prepaid envelope, voting document and a candidate profile booklet (which included instructions in English and Māori) were posted to electors from Friday 16 September 2022.

The voting mailers were produced by the NZ Post Group and were consistent in design layout to all other local authorities in the country.

Special Voting

Special votes were available from 16 September 2022 to noon 8 October 2022 from:

- Council's Main Office, 15 Fitzherbert Road, Gisborne;
- Te Puia Springs Service Centre, 4746 Waiapu Road, Te Puia Springs;
- phoning or emailing the electoral office.

354 special votes were returned prior to the close of voting, of which 289 (81.6%) were valid. This compares to 520 special votes returned for the 2019 election, of which 435 (83.65%) were valid.

Elector Turnout

Of the 33,948 electors on the Final Electoral Roll, 14,738 electors returned their voting document. This represents a 43.4% return and compares to a 50.1% return in 2019 and a 48.55% return in 2016.

A schedule of the number of daily returned voting documents over the voting period is attached (**Appendix 1**).

Of note, the 2022 average nationwide voter turnout is 45.58% (compared to 41.7% for the 2019 election) and an average 43.83% voter turnout from the more provincial councils (e.g. Ashburton, Far North, Gisborne, Matamata-Piako, Taupo etc).

Results

With the undertaking of the early processing of returned voting documents during the voting period, progress results were able to be released on election day at around 3pm. Progress results reflected about 80% of votes cast and did not include votes received at Council offices on the last couple of days of the voting period or special votes received.

The preliminary results were released around 1pm on Sunday following the receipt and processing of a significant number of votes received at the Council offices prior to the close of voting. The preliminary result reflected about 98% of votes cast. These statistics show about 18% of all votes cast were received by hand on the last couple of days before the close of voting.

Both the progress and preliminary results were released to candidates and placed on Council's website.

The final results (Declaration of Results of Election – see **Appendix 3**) were made on Friday 14 October 2022 and were also released to candidates and placed on Council's website.

Election Costs

The 2022 estimated election cost advised in October 2021 was \$210,000 + GST (or for 35,000 electors, \$6.00 + GST per elector), subject to actual third-party costs.

The 2022 final election cost has now been determined at \$217,934 + GST (or for 33,948 electors, \$6.42 + GST per elector).

The cost increase is due largely to the higher than budgeted costs of postage (an additional \$5,917 + GST), due to a late change in pricing by NZ Post from a nationwide unit price to each council's zonal pricing (the rural zone being the highest rate) and labour (to process STV preferences).

This compares to a cost per elector of \$5.63 + GST for the 2019 election (or +14%).

Upcoming Issues

Inquiry into the 2022 elections

Parliament's Justice Committee is undertaking its normal inquiry into the conduct of the 2022 local government elections. Submissions were called for and closed on Tuesday 14 February 2023.

The Terms of Reference include:

- low voter turnout
- the provision of election services by private organisations, with particular reference to:
 - special voting
 - provision of ballot papers
 - complaint processes
 - accountability for local elections
 - postal voting (including security of ballots and whether postal voting is an effective method of receiving votes)
- the age of eligible voters (with reference to lowering the age of eligible voters to 16 years).

Electoral System Review

Under the Local Electoral Act 2001, a local authority may resolve, before 12 September 2023, to change the electoral system used at the last election, unless a poll on the matter was recently held. Although Council resolved in 2020 to adopt the STV (single transferable voting) electoral system, it is able to make a further resolution if it so wishes by 12 September 2023.

However, a public notice must be given by 19 September 2023 providing the right of electors to demand a poll on the matter.

Māori Representation Review

As Council resolved in 2020 to establish one or more Māori wards for the 2022 and 2025 triennial elections, no further action on this is required in 2023.

Representation Arrangements Review

The Local Electoral Act 2001 requires every local authority to undertake a representation arrangements review at least once in every six-year period. As Council last undertook such a review in 2021 (for the 2022 triennial elections), it is not required to conduct a review until 2027, but it can undertake a further review after three-years (2024) if required (for example if Council wishes to review its wards, boundaries, number of elected members or establish community boards).

Summary and Conclusions

The Gisborne District Council's 2022 triennial elections were conducted successfully and met all legislative and practical requirements. No issues or concerns of significance arose from these elections and all tasks were completed satisfactorily and on time.

There are however several electoral issues Council may wish to consider during 2023/24:

- (i) Council **is able to** (optional) consider the electoral system for the 2025 triennial elections – by 12 September 2023 but **must** place public notice of the electoral system to be used for the 2025 triennial election and the right of electors to demand a poll – by 19 September 2023;
- (ii) Council **may** (optional) undertake a further representation arrangements review in 2024, if it wishes to review any of its current arrangements.



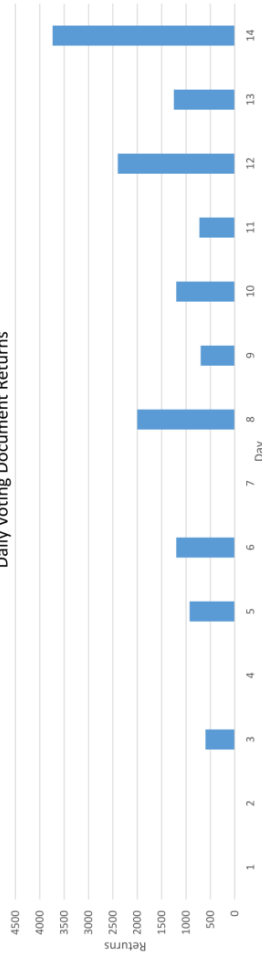
Dale Ofsoske
Electoral Officer // Gisborne District Council
Election Services

APPENDIX 1

GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL
VOTING DOCUMENT RETURNS - 2022 ELECTIONS

WARD/ELECTORS	Return Day including Special Votes													
	21-Sep	22-Sep	23-Sep	26-Sep	27-Sep	28-Sep	29-Sep	30-Sep	3-Oct	4-Oct	5-Oct	6-Oct	7-Oct	8-Oct
TAIRĀWHITI GENERAL	0	0	450	450	1075	1900	1900	3475	3975	5000	5475	7375	8450	11081
	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%	1.9%	4.7%	8.2%	8.2%	15.0%	17.2%	21.7%	23.7%	31.9%	36.6%	48.0%
TAIRĀWHITI MĀORI	0	0	150	150	450	825	825	1250	1450	1625	1875	2375	2550	3657
	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	1.4%	4.1%	7.6%	7.6%	11.5%	13.4%	15.0%	17.3%	21.9%	23.5%	33.7%
TOTAL	0	0	600	600	1525	2725	2725	4725	5425	6625	7350	9750	11000	14738
	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	1.8%	4.5%	8.0%	8.0%	13.9%	16.0%	19.5%	21.7%	28.7%	32.4%	43.4%
DAILY %	0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	0.0%	2.7%	3.5%	0	5.9%	2.1%	3.5%	2.1%	7.1%	3.7%	11.0%
2019 Returns	1.2%	3.0%	5.6%	10.8%	11.0%	14.4%	16.8%	19.1%	22.1%	23.9%	30.9%	35.3%	38.0%	50.1%
2016 Returns	3.4%	6.4%	9.0%	12.1%	14.3%	19.2%	22.0%	24.4%	26.7%	29.4%	33.6%	37.0%	41.9%	48.5%

GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL 2022 ELECTION
Daily Voting Document Returns



APPENDIX 2

GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS NOTICE

NOTICE OF DAY OF ELECTION FOR THE 2022 ELECTIONS OF GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Nominations received

Notice is given under section 65 of the Local Electoral Act 2001 that the following persons have been duly nominated as candidates for:

Mayor (one vacancy)

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation
ALDER	Colin	
BROWN	Darin	
STOLTZ	Rehette	
TIBBLE	Rhonda	

COUNCIL

Tairāwhiti General Ward (eight vacancies)

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation
AKUHATA-BROWN	Meredith	Independent
ALDER	Colin	
BROWN	Jen	
BROWN	Moera	Independent
CRANSTON	Andy	
FLORANCE	Ben	
FOSTER	Larry Keith	
GREGORY	Debbie	Independent
JONES	Peter	
KARAITIANA	Tina	
LODEWYK	Rachel	
MCKELLOW	Alistar Malcolm	
MILL	Gareth	
MOEKE-MURRAY	Hine	
MURPHY	Frank	
PACKER	Leighton	
PAGE	Mike	
PENNEFATHER	Dennis Patrick	Independent
REYNOLDS	Charlie	
ROBINSON	Tony	
TELFER	Rob	
THOMPSON	Teddy	
TILLEY	Julian	
WALKER	Jordan	
WHAREHINGA	Josh	

GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS NOTICE

Tairāwhiti Māori Ward (*five vacancies*)

Last Name	First Name	Affiliation
BROWN	Darin	
EMMERSON	Athena	
HAENGA	Chris	Independent
PAHURU-HURIWAI	Ani	Independent
PARATA	Rawinia	Ngati Porou
PEARLESS	Harawira Craig	
PROCTER	Ian George	
RIA	Aubrey	
TIBBLE	Rhonda	
TOROA	Jody	
TUPARA	Nick	
WALKER	Agnes Lyn	
WARMENHOVEN	Marijke	

As there are (for each office) more candidates than there are vacancies to be filled, an election will be held between the listed candidates on Saturday, 8 October 2022, under the single transferable voting electoral system by postal vote.

Order of candidate names

The Gisborne District Council has resolved under regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 to adopt the random order of candidate names to appear on the voting documents.

Issuing of voting documents

Voting documents will be posted to electors from Friday, 16 September 2022.

Return of voting documents

Voting documents must be returned not later than noon, Saturday, 8 October 2022 to the electoral officer.

Voting documents can be returned by post or hand delivered at the following council offices between Friday, 16 September 2022 and Friday, 7 October 2022 during normal office hours, and Saturday, 8 October 2022 between 9.00am – noon:

- Gisborne District Council's Main Office, 15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne
- Te Puia Springs Service Centre, 4746 Waiapu Road, Te Puia Springs

GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTIONS NOTICE

Special voting

Special voting in terms of the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Electoral Regulations 2001 may be exercised at the above council offices and times.

A person can apply to enrol as either a residential or ratepayer elector right up to and including Friday, 7 October 2022 – the day before the close of voting.

Dale Ofsoske, Electoral Officer

Gisborne District Council

15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

17 August 2022

APPENDIX 3

**DECLARATION OF RESULTS OF
ELECTION for the Gisborne
District Council 2022 elections**



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

I hereby declare the results of the elections held on 8 October 2022 for the following offices:

Mayor (one vacancy)

STOLTZ, Rehette	Elected
ALDER, Colin	Excluded
TIBBLE, Rhonda	Excluded
BROWN, Darin	Excluded

Informal votes received: 35
Blank votes received: 198

I therefore declare Rehette STOLTZ to be elected. The final quota as determined at the last iteration was 7252.

COUNCIL

Tairāwhiti General Ward (eight vacancies)

WHAREHINGA, Josh	Elected
ALDER, Colin	Elected
FOSTER, Larry Keith	Elected
TELFER, Rob	Elected
CRANSTON, Andy	Elected
GREGORY, Debbie (Independent)	Elected
ROBINSON, Tony	Elected
THOMPSON, Teddy	Elected
AKUHATA-BROWN, Meredith (Independent)	Excluded
BROWN, Jen	Excluded
REYNOLDS, Charlie	Excluded
KARAITIANA, Tina	Excluded
FLORANCE, Ben	Excluded
MCKELLOW, Alistar Malcolm	Excluded
WALKER, Jordan	Excluded
BROWN, Moera (Independent)	Excluded
MURPHY, Frank	Excluded
LODEWYK, Rachel	Excluded
MOEKE-MURRAY, Hine	Excluded
PACKER, Leighton	Excluded
TILLEY, Julian	Excluded
JONES, Peter	Excluded
MILL, Gareth	Excluded
PENNEFATHER, Dennis Patrick (Independent)	Excluded
PAGE, Mike	Excluded

Informal votes received: 503
Blank votes received: 125

I therefore declare Colin ALDER, Andy CRANSTON, Larry Keith FOSTER, Debbie GREGORY, Tony ROBINSON, Rob TELFER, Teddy THOMPSON and Josh WHAREHINGA, to be elected. The final quota as determined at the last iteration was 1064.186883493.

Tairāwhiti Māori Ward (five vacancies)

TIBBLE, Rhonda	Elected
RIA, Aubrey	Elected
TUPARA, Nick	Elected
PAHURU-HURIWAI, Ani (Independent)	Elected
PARATA, Rawinia (Ngati Porou)	Elected
BROWN, Darin	Excluded
PROCTER, Ian George	Excluded
TOROA, Jody	Excluded
HAENGA, Chris (Independent)	Excluded
WALKER, Agnes Lyn	Excluded
WARMENHOVEN, Marijke	Excluded
PEARLESS, Harawira Craig	Excluded
EMMERSON, Athena	Excluded

Informal votes received: 76
Blank votes received: 60

I therefore declare Rhonda TIBBLE, Nick TUPARA, Aubrey RIA, Ani PAHURU-HURIWAI, and Rawinia PARATA, to be elected. The final quota as determined at the last iteration was 541.748940775.

Full details of the official results of the election are available on request from the Electoral Officer.




Dated at Gisborne, 14 October 2022
Dale Ofosoke, Electoral Officer
Gisborne District Council
15 Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne

Phone 0800 922 822

The story behind “Karangatia rā 2022”

“Karangatia rā 2022” – He whakamārama

Our campaign is “**Karangatia rā 2022**” is a call to the people of Tairāwhiti encouraging us all to take action – to **STAND** as candidates and **VOTE** on Elections Day on Saturday 8 October 2022.

The original version of the waiata Karangatia rā was composed by Sir Apirana Ngata in 1919 as a call to rally the people of Tairāwhiti and welcome back the Māori Pioneer Battalion to Gisborne after the 1st World War.

When Sir Apirana Ngata died in 1950 a second version was written paying tribute to his life work, and this is the first verse of this more recent version that you can hear on our video, sung by Gisborne District Council’s very own Waiata Group.

Karangatia rā	A call to you
Karangatia rā	A call to you
Pōwhiritia rā	Welcome
Ngā iwi o te motu	To the tribes of the land
Ngā mano finī	To you the multitudes
Haere mai	Welcome
He hui aroha	A gathering of love
Mo koutou e ngā iwi	For you the people
Ngau nei te aroha	That despite our loss
Me te mamae	The future is bright

Elections in Tairāwhiti Gisborne will be very different in 2022 with five Māori Ward councillors eight General Ward councillors and the Mayor to be elected. It is also the first time we will be voting using STV (Single Transferable Voting).

Gisborne District Council, together with representatives from Te Runanga o Turanganui a Kiwa and Te Runanganui o Ngāti Porou have created a Te Tairāwhiti Gisborne-specific election 2022 campaign. We have jointly branded and customized the national Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) “Vote 22” campaign in Reo Māori and English.

We have drawn on the pōwhiri process and used elements of that kawa as a framework to approach our campaign. The elements we are using include: the Wero, the Karanga, the Whaikōrero and the Waiata with the three stages of the electoral process for the 2022 local elections: Stand, Educate and Vote.

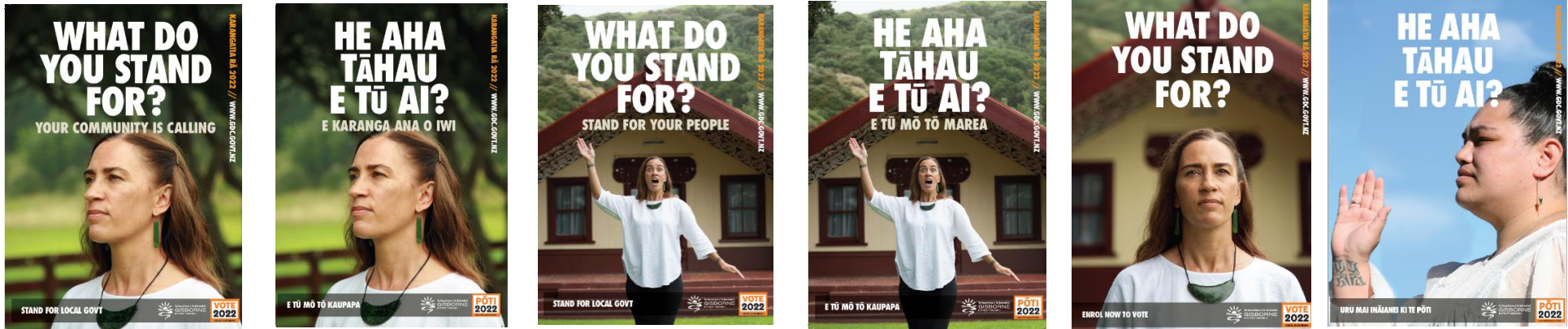
The people we have used in our video are the faces of trusted, local and proud people of Tairāwhiti alongside a selection of our recognizable and beautiful regional locations.

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.TZ

STAND

Media advertising (Weekly adverts in The Gisborne Herald until Election Day on Saturday 8 October supported by digital banners.)

Print (June/part July ads)

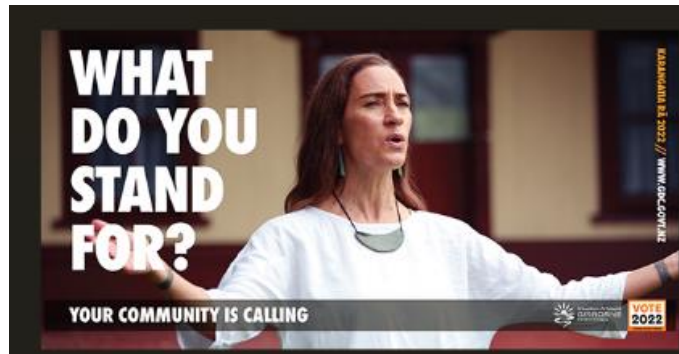


Digital (July ads)

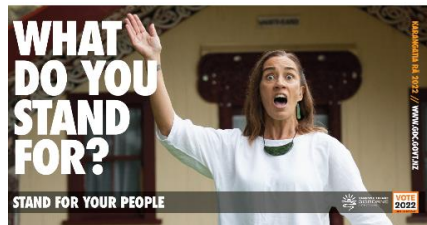


KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.TZ

Digital billboards (On display on Childers Road, Gisborne Monday to Sunday w/c 4 July and w/c 24 July on Childers Road respectively.)



Billboards (On display at eight Gisborne sites from 19 June to 14 August 2022.)



STAND FOR LOCAL GOVT
 KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.TZ



A4 & A3 Posters (June/July)

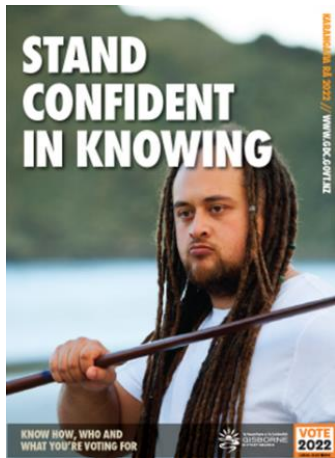


KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

EDUCATE

Media advertising (Weekly adverts in The Gisborne Herald until Election Day on Saturday 8 October supported by digital banners.)

Print (Aug ads)



Digital (Aug ads)

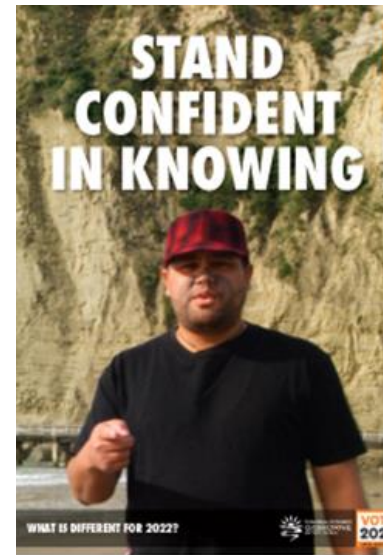
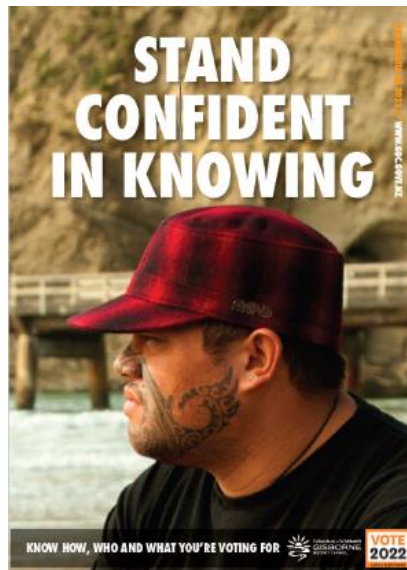


IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT THIS TIME
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

A4 & A3 Posters (Aug)



Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT THIS TIME
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

VOTE
2022
LOCAL ELECTIONS

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

July Rates Notice (Aug)

Starters and Strategies teachers' magazine (July)

STAND CONFIDENT IN KNOWING

TU MAIA AI I ROTO I TE MŌHIO

WHAT IS DIFFERENT FOR 2022?
HE ANA NGĀ REREKÉTANGĀ MO 2022?

KARANGATIA RĀ TE TAIRĀWHITI
The Gisborne District Council 2022 election is a bit different for Tairāwhiti Gisborne with

- 5 Māori Ward councillors
- 8 General Ward councillors and
- For the first time STV or Single Transferable Voting will be used.

To find out more go to gdc.govt.nz
He whakamārama anō, whakapā atu ki gdc.govt.nz

PŌTI 2022 **VOTE 2022**
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR?

STAND FOR LOCAL GOVT
E TŪ MŌ TŌ KAUPAPA

The Gisborne District Council 2022 election is on Saturday 8 October, if you've ever considered standing for Council, NOW is the time to STAND for your people. The candidate nomination period is open from Friday 15 July to 12 noon Friday 12 August.

HE AHA TĀHAU E TŪ AI?

ENROL NOW TO VOTE
URU MAI INĀIANEI KI TE PŌTI

Are you enrolled to vote? Have you moved recently? To receive your voting pack by post, you need to be enrolled by Friday 12 August. To enrol, check or update your enrolment details go to Vote NZ.

To find out more go to gdc.govt.nz
He whakamārama anō, whakapā atu ki gdc.govt.nz

PŌTI 2022 **VOTE 2022**
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT THIS TIME

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 //

5 MĀORI WARD COUNCILLORS
8 GENERAL WARD COUNCILLORS
FIRST TIME USING STV OR SINGLE TRANSFERABLE VOTING

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT THIS TIME
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

VOTE 2022
LOCAL ELECTIONS

STV animated video



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

VOTE

Media advertising (Weekly adverts in The Gisborne Herald until Election Day on Saturday 8 October supported by digital banners.)

Print (Sept ads)



KARANGATIA RĀ TE TAIRĀWHITI
IT'S TIME TO VOTE IN THE 2022 GISBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL ELECTIONS...

Post your voting papers in the orange freepost envelope in any NZ Post mailbox by **Tuesday 4 October 2022** or put into the orange ballot box in the following locations by **12 noon on Saturday 8 October 2022** (when voting closes):

Hicks Bay General Store, Four Square Eastern, Four Square Ruatoria, Four Square Tokomaru Bay, Te Pua Springs service centre, George and Mildred's Supermarket, Gisborne District Council office, Karangata Motors and Texas Takeaways. **OR** into the Drive by Ballot Box at Marina Car Park, Gisborne on Saturday 8 October (from 8:30am – 12noon).

VOTING CLOSES – 12 noon, Saturday 8 October 2022 – ELECTION DAY

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE. VOTE FOR YOUR FUTURE
TŌ PŌTI. TŌ REO. PŌTI AI MŌ TE ANAMATA

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
 HELP SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.

HELP SHAPE YOUR COMMUNITY

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti
GISBORNE
 DISTRICT COUNCIL

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
 KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

VOTE 2022
 LOCAL ELECTIONS

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

Print (October ads)



YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

Digital (Sept ads)



YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

Digital ads (October)



A banner for the Gisborne District Council 2022 local elections. On the left is the council logo: a stylized sun and waves with the text 'Te Kaunihera o Te Tairāwhiti GIBBORNE DISTRICT COUNCIL'. To the right of the logo is the slogan 'YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.' in large white letters. Below the slogan is the text 'KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ'. On the far right is a white box with an orange border containing the text 'VOTE 2022 LOCAL ELECTIONS'.

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

Digital billboards (On display on Childers Road, Gisborne Monday to Sunday w/c 5 September and w/c 26 September on Childers Road respectively.)



Billboards (On display at eight Gisborne sites from 4 September to 9 October 2022.)



YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

A4 & A3 Posters (Sept/Oct) incl special vote



IT'S TIME TO VOTE AND IT'S DIFFERENT THIS TIME
 BUT IT'S EASY IF YOU FOLLOW THESE THREE STEPS....

[1] RECEIVE your voting documents by POST between Friday 16 to Wednesday 21 September 2022

[2] RANK your candidate(s) by writing a NUMBER in order of your preference 1, 2, 3 etc.

[3] POST your vote in the orange FREEPOST ENVELOPE by Tuesday 4 October 2022

OR PUT your vote in an orange BALLOT BOX by 12 noon Saturday 8 October 2022. To find a ballot box near you, go to gdc.govt.nz

VOTING CLOSSES - 12 NOON, SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER 2022 - ELECTION DAY

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
 KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

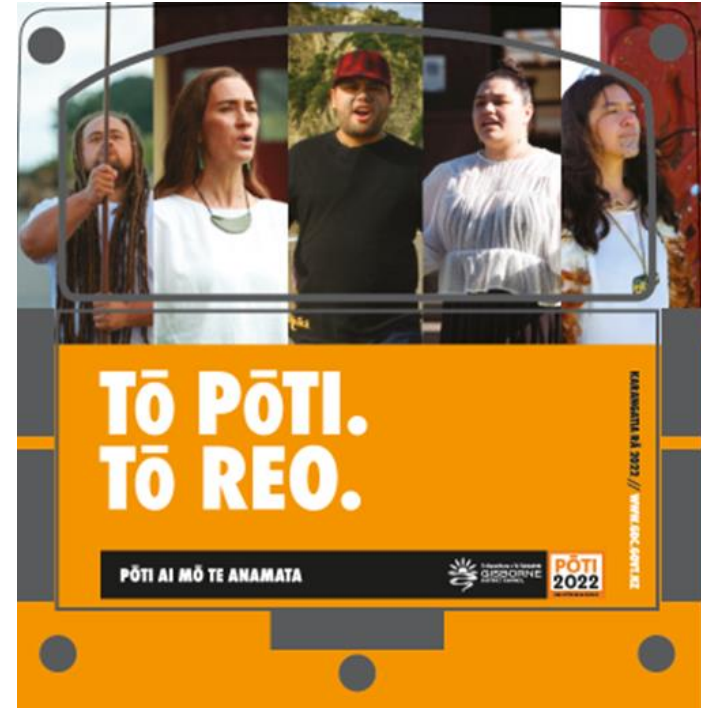
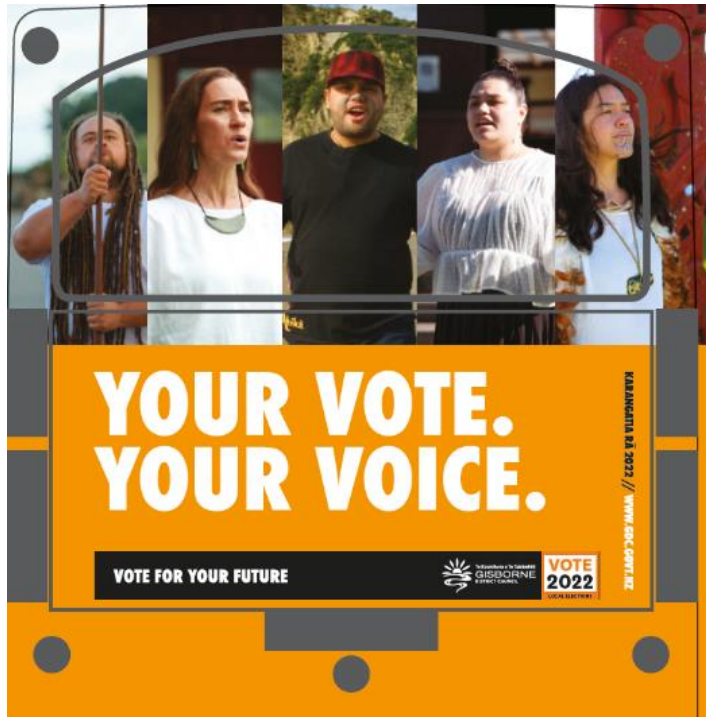
Te Kaunihera o Te Taiāwhiti
GISBORNE
 DISTRICT COUNCIL

VOTE 2022
 LOCAL ELECTIONS



KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

Bus Backs (15 Aug – 7 Oct)

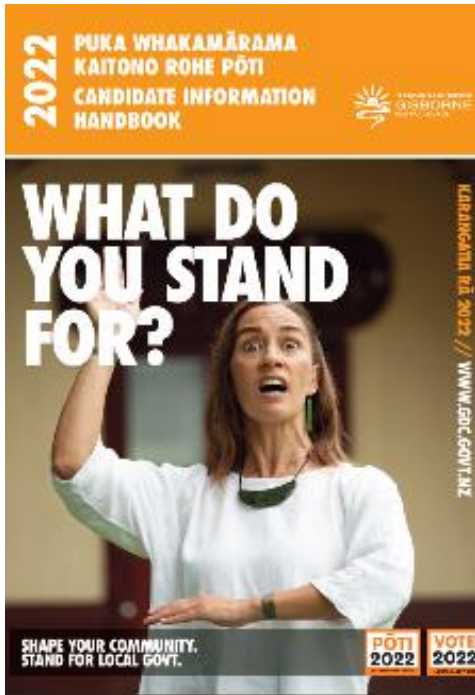


KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.T.NZ

Flags (Sept/Oct)



Candidate Information Handbook cover



GDC Election Instructions Booklet cover



STV FAQs

Single Transferable Voting (STV) –
Frequently Asked Questions**Q1 What is STV? *He aha rā te STV?***

- A** STV stands for single transferable vote and is a preferential system of voting where you can rank as few or as many candidates as you like. It is a single vote which can be transferred between candidates to maximise the chance of your vote contributing to the election of at least one candidate and not being wasted.
- If a popular candidate does not need all the votes they receive, a proportion is transferred to the voter's next preference.
 - If a candidate is not popular and receives few votes, those votes are transferred to a voter's next preference.

Q2 How do I vote in a STV election? *Me pēhea au e pōti i te STV?*

- A** To exercise a STV vote, start by writing the number 1 in the box next to the candidate you most want to be elected. Write the number 2 next to your second most preferred candidate and so on 3, 4, 5 etc.

Q3 Do I need to use the number 1? *Me whakamahia e au te nama 1?*

- A** Yes, you must write the number 1 for your vote to be counted. If you wish, this may be the only number you write down.

Q4 Do I need to put a number beside all the candidates?***Me whakapiri au he nama ki te taaha o ngā kaitono katoa?***

- A** No, you can write as many or as few numbers as you like, up to however many candidates are standing for that election.

Q5 Do the numbers need to be in the sequence 1,2,3,4 or can I write them down randomly?***Me rārangitia ngā nama kia pēnei 1,2,3,4 me rārangitia poka noa rānei?***

- A** The numbers must be in sequence and there must be only one of each number. Do not write the same number more than once, e.g. 1,2,3,3,4,5 and do not miss a number from your preferences, e.g. 1,2,3,4,5.

Q6 What is a quota? *He aha rā te rahinga pōti?*

- A** In a STV election candidates must reach a certain number of votes to get elected. This is called a quota or an absolute majority (in the case of a single vacancy election such as the mayoralty). The quota is based on the total number of votes in that election and the number of vacant positions (technically a small fraction is added to avoid a tie).

Examples of how the quota is calculated: *Ētahi tauira hei tōtā i te rahinga pōti:*



- I. In an election with three vacant positions and where there were 4,000 valid votes, the quota would be:
4,000 (votes) divided by 3 (vacancies) + 1 = 1,000
In this example, the quota would be 1,000.

- II. In an election with one vacant position, the quota (absolute majority) would be:
4,000 (votes) divided by 1 (vacancy) + 1 = 2,000
In this example, the quota would be 2,000.

The quota (absolute majority) is calculated before the first preferences are counted. It is then recalculated each time more vote transfers are required to enable more candidates to reach the quota and the number of valid votes has decreased because more votes have become non-transferable.

Q7 What do the quotas look like for the 2022 elections for Gisborne councillors?***He aha te āhua o te rahinga pōti mo te pōtinga o ngā kaikaunhera o Te Tairāwhiti i te Kōwhirianga Pōti 2022?***

- A** **Tairāwhiti Māori Ward: *Tairāwhiti Rahenga Māori:*** There are five councillors to be elected in the Tairāwhiti Māori Ward with the number of resident electors being 10,923 (at 31 July 2022). 50% of electors voted in 2019 so, on the basis of the same turnout in 2022, an indicative quota to be elected as a Tairāwhiti Māori Ward councillor is approximately **900** (5,461 divided by 6).
Tairāwhiti General Ward: *Tairāwhiti Rahenga Whānui:* There are eight councillors to be elected in the Tairāwhiti General Ward with the number of resident electors being 23,244 (at 31 July 2022). Again, on the basis of 50% of electors voting in 2022, an indicative quota to be elected as a Tairāwhiti General Ward councillor is approximately **1,300** (11,622 divided by 9).
The actual quotas to be used at the 2022 elections will be calculated after the close of voting at 12 noon on Saturday 8 October 2022 and the number of valid votes is known.

Q8 How will a candidate be elected for the Gisborne mayoralty?***Me pēhea te pōti i tētahi kaitono hei koro matua mo Te Tairāwhiti?***

- A** If there were only two candidates, the election would be decided on the first preference votes. This would be the same result as for a first past the post election.
As there are more than two candidates for the Gisborne mayoralty in 2022, an absolute majority quota will be calculated before the first preferences are counted. It will then be recalculated as required.
With 50% of the 34,167 resident electors (as at 31 July 2022) voting in 2022, an indicative absolute majority to be elected as Gisborne mayor is approximately **8,500** (17,083 divided by 2).

Q9 Where can I find out more about STV?***Kei hea ētahi atu whakamārama mo te STV?***

- A** **Scan to watch** our short Tairāwhiti themed STV animated video
Go to our website to watch:
[STV – Single Transferable Voting in local elections for Gisborne District Council - YouTube](#) ; OR
Go to www.stv.govt.nz and/or
<https://electionbuddy.com/features/voting-systems/stv-voting/>



Ballot box poster for all site locations

**BALLOT BOX
POUAKA PŌTI**

LOCAL ELECTIONS  NGĀ PŌTINGA Ā-ROHE
▶ SCAN ME

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

 Te Kaitiaki o Te Taiāwhiri
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

PŌTI 2022
KARANGATIA RĀ

VOTE 2022
LOCAL ELECTIONS

Special Vote poster – time customised for each location

SPECIAL VOTES HERE
on Wednesday 5 October
NGĀ PŌTI MOTUHAKE KI KONEI
i te Wenerei 5 o Oketopa
1pm – 2.30pm

LOCAL ELECTIONS NGĀ PŌTINGA Ā-ROHE

YOUR VOTE. YOUR VOICE.
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOVT.NZ

 Te Kaitiaki o Te Taiāwhiri
GISBORNE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

PŌTI 2022
KARANGATIA RĀ

VOTE 2022
LOCAL ELECTIONS

KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.TZ

June/July 2022

Local Elections 2022

It's a bit different this time ...

The Gisborne District Council 2022 local election is a bit different for Tairāwhiti Gisborne with:

- 5 Māori Ward councillors
- 8 General Ward councillors and the
- First time STV or Single Transferable Voting will be used.

Karangatia rā 2022

This year's local election campaign - Karangatia rā 2022 - draws on the pōwhiri process and uses elements of that kawa as a framework: the Wero, the Karanga, the Whaikōrero and the Waiata WITH the three stages of the electoral process for the 2022 local elections: STAND, EDUCATE and VOTE.

Gisborne District Council, together with representatives from Te Runanga o Turanganui a Kiwa and Te Runanganui o Ngāti Porou have created a Te Tairāwhiti Gisborne-specific election 2022 campaign. We have jointly branded and customized the national Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) "Vote 22" campaign in Reo Māori and English.

Our campaign "Karangatia rā 2022" is a call to the people of Tairāwhiti encouraging us all to take action – to STAND as candidates and VOTE on Election Day on Saturday 8 October 2022.

The name Karangatia rā is the name of one of this region's most recognisable waiata composed by Sir Apirana Ngata in 1919, as a call to rally the people of Tairāwhiti and welcome back the Māori Pioneer Battalion after the First World War.

Our final imagery and video shows local Tairāwhiti faces alongside a selection of our recognisable and beautiful regional locations. The waiata is karangatia rā, sung by Gisborne District Council's Waiaia Group at Awarua (the Council's main building in Gisborne).

From June until Election Day on Saturday 8 October 2022, we will see and hear 'Karangatia rā Te Tairāwhiti' around Tairāwhiti Gisborne on posters, on billboards, online, in the Gisborne Herald, on the backs of buses, in videos, in ratepayer notices, on the GDC website and Facebook page and on the radio, read by one of our team.



The timeline for our messaging and imagery is as follows:

1. STAND (the Wero and the Karanga): June – 12 August
2. EDUCATE (the Whaikōrero): June – October
3. VOTE (the Waiata): September - 8 October



Please see examples of our STAND assets attached and go to the Gisborne District Council website: [Gisborne District Council \(gdc.govt.nz\)](https://www.gdc.govt.nz) [2022 local elections | Gisborne District Council \(gdc.govt.nz\)](https://www.gdc.govt.nz/2022-local-elections)

We will send you a link to our campaign video and supporting video clips at a later date and examples of our VOTE assets nearer to September.

Ngā mihi

Kim

Kim Everett | Senior Communications Advisor | Gisborne District Council



STAND FOR LOCAL GOVT
KARANGATIA RĀ 2022 // WWW.GDC.GOV.TZ



Title: 23-113 Three Waters Reforms Reset
Section: Chief Executive's Office
Prepared by: Yvette Kinsella - Special Projects Manager
Meeting Date: Thursday 18 May 2023

Legal: No

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

Report to COUNCIL/TE KAUNIHERA for information

PURPOSE - TE TAKE

The purpose of this report is to outline the key facets of the Government's proposed reset of the Three Waters Reform programme.

SUMMARY - HE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA

On 13 April 2023, Prime Minister Chris Hipkins announced changes to the Government's Three Waters Reform Programme. The key changes being proposed under the reset are:

- Shift away from a centralised model with four Water Services Entities (WSEs) to a regionally-led model with 10 WSEs. Te Tairāwhiti would be in Entity F along with Wairoa, Hastings, Napier and Central Hawkes Bay.
- Deferral of establishment dates of the 10 WSEs to at least early 2025.
- Staggering of establishment dates for individual WSEs with a final hard establishment date of 1 July 2026 for all WSEs.
- Strengthening of local voice in WSEs with the inclusion of all territorial authorities within a WSE on the Regional Representative Group with 50% matching representation from mana whenua.

To ensure that smaller WSEs are financially viable from establishment, the Government will not move forward with Tranche 2 of the Better Off Funding (\$21.62m for Te Tairāwhiti). The Tranche 1 funding (\$7.21m for Te Tairāwhiti) has already been committed and will continue to be available.

To implement the proposed changes, a separate Water Services Amendment Bill (the Amendment Bill) will have its first reading in the House in June where it will be referred to Select Committee. There will be a short window for submissions (June – July) and the Bill will be enacted before the House rises at end of August 2023.

The two Water Bills already with the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee will continue on their current trajectory with the Select Committee report due back to the House in June. All legislation will be in place before the end of the current Parliament.

Until the Amendment Bill is released, we will not have absolute clarity on the reset proposal and its implications.

Staff will present at the Council meeting on 18 May with any more detail that has come to hand and some initial thoughts on potential submission themes.

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 details around the Government's proposal are not yet available and we are not at the point where we can influence the outcome.

RECOMMENDATIONS - NGĀ TŪTOHUNGA

That the Council/Te Kaunihera:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

Authorised by:

Nedine Thatcher Swann - Chief Executive

Keywords: three waters reform programme, reset of three waters reform, water services entities, better off funding, water services amendment bill, tranche 1 better off funding, select committee, water bills

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: High Significance

This Report: Low Significance

Inconsistency with Council's current strategy and policy

Overall Process: High Significance

This Report: Low Significance

The effects on all or a large part of the Gisborne district

Overall Process: High Significance

This Report: Low Significance

The effects on individuals or specific communities

Overall Process: High Significance

This Report: Low Significance

The level or history of public interest in the matter or issue

Overall Process: High Significance

This Report: Medium Significance

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