

# AGENDA



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MEMBERSHIP: Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Meredith Akuhata-Brown, Bill Burdett, Andy Cranston, Shannon Dowsing, Sandra Faulkner, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Isaac Hughes, Tony Robinson, Pat Seymour, Terry Sheldrake and Kerry Worsnop.

## COUNCIL

DATE: Wednesday 27 July 2022

TIME: 10:30AM

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

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# Council

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Mayor Foon
<b>Deputy Chairperson:</b>	Cr Stoltz
<b>Membership:</b>	The Mayor and all Councillors
<b>Quorum:</b>	Half of the members when the number is even and a majority when the number is uneven
<b>Meeting Frequency:</b>	Six weekly (or as required)

## Terms of Reference:

The Council is responsible for strategic leadership, through the creation of policies based on the legislative mandate. The Council's terms of reference include the following powers which cannot be delegated to committees, subcommittees, officers or any other subordinate decision-making body which includes:

- a. the power to make a rate; or
- b. the power to make a bylaw; or
- c. the power to borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long-term Plan; or
- d. the power to adopt a Long-term Plan, Annual Plan, or Annual Report; or
- e. the power to appoint a Chief Executive; or
- f. 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; or
- g. the power to adopt a remuneration and employment policy; or
- h. Terms of Reference and Delegations for the 2016-2019 Triennium; or
- i. the power to approve or change a plan (RMA); or
- j. the power to approve or amend the Council's Standing Orders; or
- k. the power to approve or amend the Code of Conduct for elected members; or
- l. the power to appoint and discharge members of committees or;
- m. the power to establish a joint committee with another local authority or other public body; or
- n. the power to make the final decision on a recommendation from the Ombudsman where it is proposed that Council not accept the recommendation.
- o. make those decisions which are required by legislation to be made by resolution of the local authority that are not listed in 1-14 above.
- p. carry out leadership functions including advocacy and facilitation on behalf of the community.
- q. exercise all non-delegatable and non-delegated functions and powers of the Council.
- r. consider any matters referred to it from any of the Committees.
- s. authorise all expenditure not delegated to staff or other Committees.

## **Financial**

1. To determine all financial matters not delegated.
2. To receive reports of the exercise of financial delegated authority pursuant to the Public Bodies Contracts Act 1959.
3. To approve Council's borrowing programme and treasury management strategy.
4. To undertake the statutory audit processes and to consider and approve the external audit arrangements, to receive the Auditor's reports and to approve the audited annual report.

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 and section 34A of Resource Management Act 1991.

## 9. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff for DECISION



22-182

**Title:** 22-182 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2022  
**Section:** Democracy & Support Services  
**Prepared by:** Heather Kohn - Democracy & Support Services Manager  
**Meeting Date:** Wednesday 27 July 2022

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Legal: Yes

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

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### Report to Extraordinary COUNCIL for decision

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to note the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Annual Report (**Attachment 1**) and to provide direction to the Mayor on how Council wishes to vote on the LGNZ remits at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Thursday 28 July 2022.

#### SUMMARY

In 2022 the LGNZ AGM will be held via Audio Visual link at 9am Thursday 28 July 2022 and will be a week later than the LGNZ Annual Conference.

Council determines how its presiding delegate (the Mayor) votes at the AGM, at this AGM there are six remits to consider.

Council is asked to consider the remits approved by the LGNZ Remit Screening Committee, sent by LGNZ 14 July 2022 in **Attachment 2** (Section 6) and decide whether to support (or not) each remit.

1. Central government funding for public transport
2. Review of Government transport funding
3. Illegal street racing
4. Bylaw infringements
5. Density and proximity of vaping retailers
6. Polling LGNZ members.

Gisborne District Council submitted a remit asking LGNZ to work with central government to amend the Gambling Act 1993. Her Worship the Mayor received a letter from the LGNZ dated 10 June 2022 advising that the proposed remit did not need the endorsement of the AGM to be actioned. (**Attachment 3.**)

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

That the Council:

1. Instructs the Mayor, as presiding delegate, to vote to support – or oppose – the Local Government New Zealand remits as follows:
  - a) That LGNZ;
    - i. Calls on central government to fully and permanently fund free public transport for students, community service card holders, under 25s, and their support people.
    - ii. That LGNZ joins the Aotearoa Collective for Public Transport Equity (ACPTÉ) in support of the Free Fares Campaign.
  - b) That LGNZ call for an independent review into the way in which government, through Waka Kotahi, fund transport investments in Aotearoa. This includes funding of new developments and maintenance programmes.
  - c) That LGNZ implement a nation-wide working group of subject matter experts with the objective of formulating an action plan to effectively enforce the Land Transport Act 1998 and work with police to tackle illegal street racing and the antisocial behaviour associated with it.
  - d) That LGNZ lobby Government to implement an infringement notice regime for general bylaws.
  - e) That LGNZ requests the Government to:
    - i. Restrict the sale of vaping products to R18 specialist vape stores.
    - ii. Develop proximity limits to prevent the clustering of vaping product retailers and protect young people.
  - f) That LGNZ adopt a policy to poll the LGNZ membership on any significant issue affecting local government in Aotearoa, prior to making that decision. LGNZ should develop a policy in conjunction with the membership that sets out the threshold for polling the membership. In the interim, the decision about the threshold for polling rests with National Council.

*Authorised by:*

**James Baty - Director Internal Partnerships**

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**Keywords:** LGNZ, Annual General Meeting, AGM, remits

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Attachment 1 - Annual Report 2021-2022 [**22-182.1** - 24 pages]
2. Attachment 2 - AGM papers 2022 [**22-182.2** - 76 pages]
3. Attachment 3 - Remit decision letter to Gisborne District Council [**22-182.3** - 2 pages]

LGNZ ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

# Working together to achieve great things

*E hara taku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini – my strength  
is not as an individual, but as a collective.*

**We are.  
LGNZ.**

Te Kāhui Kaunihera o Aotearoa.

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## From the President

### Tēnā koutou katoa.

The past 12 months have been tough on many fronts. The multiple reforms underway that will have an intergenerational impact coupled with constant Covid-19 disruptions have put pressure on our already overwhelmed sector.

This unique environment has caused us to rethink the way we work – to make sure that the raft of changes aren't just imposed on councils, but that we actually influence decisions that have wide ramifications for the sector and communities.

We recognise that to determinedly influence requires a consistent and constructive - but frequently robust and challenging - working relationship with others. It's about working together - with our members, central government, Iwi/Māori, businesses and industry groups - which is harder work than being oppositional, but it gets us further.

This deliberate approach has seen us lock in a number of wins for our sector, including successfully advocating for a delay in the emergency management bill and the formation of an independent working group on Three Waters governance and accountability, securing the largest MTFJ contract to date – money that goes directly into mainly rural communities - \$2.5 billion funding for the sector through the Heads of Agreement, and launching the new Vote 22 campaign, which aims to increase the diversity of candidates and voter turnout at this year's local body elections.

We cannot underestimate the pace and sheer volume of changes afoot. We have to be adaptable and flexible to meet these demands. Amid councils continuing to navigate through the challenges of a global pandemic, the sector is grappling with the Three Waters and Resource Management reform which will completely change the roles and responsibilities of local authorities.

On top of those two reforms, the Future for Local Government Review is in full swing. A new health system with locality functions is being implemented later this year, there's also significant climate change work, including the National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plan, a new Waste Minimisation Strategy and the proposed reform of emergency management.

These reforms go to the heart the sector's relevance at a time when the Government of the day has a sweeping majority.

That's put our organisation in a unique position – a challenge we haven't faced in living memory. We have had to choose whether to lean into the challenge and work with you to ensure local democracy thrives in a modern progressive way – or allow it to slip away by wishing the change wasn't happening.

It was clear we needed a strong, future focused and ambitious purpose and vision for the organisation. In November, National Council endorsed LGNZ's new strategic direction - with a new purpose and vision to underpin its work over the next five years. The purpose is to be **local democracy's vision and voice** and LGNZ's bold new vision is **to create the most active and inclusive local democracy in the world.**

The new vision will be supported by four leadership pillars which underpin everything we do; connecting, advocating, developing and including.

National Council, and our new CE, Susan Freeman-Greene, along with her team have been putting the strategy in place. The new direction is paying dividends already and with many more gains for our communities ahead.

Our 2021/22 year has been a tough one – for New Zealand, for local government and for everyone in our space. But it's tough times that define who we are. It's challenges that create opportunities to innovate and thrive if we seize them.

Stuart Crosby  
President, LGNZ



## From the Chief Executive

### Kia ora koutou.

As we have faced into this unpredictable and disruptive year, we have reoriented your organisation around our new strategy. Our purpose and vision are integral to telling a compelling story about the critical role local government plays in New Zealand's democracy and how we support the sector bring that to life.

We've built the right capabilities in house to face into hard change, navigate policy complexities and drive advocacy that delivers for the sector. We've strengthened our ability to engage and communicate with members at a time when everyone's experiencing information overload. And we've shifted gears around the way we engage with the media and key decision makers. We want every New Zealander to understand the vital role of local government in creating the thriving communities we all live, work and play in – which means strong media liaison.

Part of our strategy also involves defining our key priorities, which as well as compelling story telling include building strong, beneficial partnerships across a broad spectrum of stakeholders, specifically Central Government, Iwi Māori and Taituarā. They also include making sure local voice is heard across all the key reforms; that we encourage and amplify members' voices. We're developing a broad diversity and inclusion framework; and we're supporting councils to build capability and deliver excellence.

Alongside the reforms, LGNZ is also influencing policy work that matters to our members, such as housing. We were involved in surveying members to identify concrete opportunities to increase housing stock as well as any barriers that require government intervention which can be removed easily. This was work done as part of the \$3.8 billion housing infrastructure fund.

It's just one example of the new and significant opportunities LGNZ has had to drive greater collaboration between central and local government. Initiatives like the housing infrastructure fund are test case for enhanced co-delivery with central government, particularly in the context of the Future for Local Government.

Other highlights this year include the largest Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs contract to date – money that goes directly into mainly rural communities – and launching the new Vote 22 campaign, which aims to increase both diversity of candidates and voter turnout at this year's local body elections. Our EQUIP arm has recruited new CE's for councils and we've provided support when it's needed most, including through sensitive situations.

I'm privileged to be leading LGNZ at this pivotal time in local government's history. LGNZ heads into our 2022/23 year with a clear strategic direction and an unwavering commitment to our members, who work so hard for communities across the motu. We're here for Mayors/Chairs, Chief Executives, elected members and other council staff when you most need us – don't hesitate to pick up the phone. I look forward to visiting more of your places and listening face-to-face in the coming year, as together we work towards a strong, thriving and resilient local government sector.

Susan Freeman-Greene  
CE, LGNZ



## By the numbers



**99%**

of New Zealand council are LGNZ members



**5,055**

media mentions



**39**

media releases published



**11**

CouncilMARK™ assessments completed



**40**

reform newsletters sent out to members



**128**

member newsletters keeping them up to date with latest thinking and issues



**12**

submissions on key policies



**27**

reform zooms held with Mayors/Chairs and CEs



**11**

FFLG workshops held



**700**

members hosted at the annual LGNZ conference in Blenheim July 2021



**130**

members attended the Te Maruata Conference hui



**23**

zone meetings supported



**11**

sector meetings hosted



**67**

councils as MTFJ members



**1,450**

exceeded our target to place people into jobs or training through MTFJ



**77**

councils accessed three waters technical experts to support their analysis



**14**

meetings with Ministers and the Prime Minister



**6**

working groups formed and supported



**\$2.5b**

three waters package agreed with the Crown for councils and their communities

## 01

## OUR NEW STRATEGY

### The turbulence of 2021 cemented the need for a whole new strategy for LGNZ – one that was clear and compelling and had the power to unite the sector behind a bold vision.

We also needed to ensure LGNZ was on the strongest footing possible to support our councils during a time of massive change and uncertainty.

LGNZ had to transform so we could help shape and catalyse that change on councils' behalf. We worked with TRA, an insights agency, to understand what was really important to our members and how we could best deliver for them. We heard loud and clear that councils wanted us to lead through the difficult times and face into challenges. They wanted us to support them with meaningful connection and development while advocating strongly for a robust and resilient local government sector, deeply founded in local democracy.

Our new purpose-driven strategy was tested and refined with National Council, Te Maruata, the Young Elected Members Committee, and many other leaders in the sector. It was based on the multiple conversations and engagements we had with Mayors, Chairs, elected members, CEs and council staff in all the zone and sector meetings throughout the year, along with email correspondence, research and the many zoom hui we held with the sector and our most important partners and stakeholders.

In November last year we shared our LGNZ strategy with the membership a simple and memorable new purpose and vision founded on four leadership pillars and six priority areas to hone our focus and drive our energy for the next five years. This new strategy helped us focus our limited resources and energy on six key priorities for the next 5 years.

### We believe that to grow a great Aotearoa New Zealand, we need thriving local communities and a strong local government.

As an organisation, LGNZ supports and advocates for councils across New Zealand, ensuring the needs and priorities of their communities and residents are heard loud and clear at the highest levels of central government. We empower councils who know their communities best and support them to thrive – culturally, economically, socially and environmentally.

Guided by National Council, our focus is on creating a future-fit, proactive and inclusive local government sector – from policy development and advocacy, to supporting capability building through advice, consultancy and training.

#### Our new purpose is to be local democracy's vision and voice.

We will be curious, proactive and responsive to the needs of local government. We will advocate for our councils and be the champion for communities' needs. We'll look beyond the horizon, working to a timescale that's longer than the next election cycle. That means applying ourselves at the micro and macro levels to truly understand the issues that confront us today as well as anticipate those that will challenge us tomorrow.

#### Our vision is for Aotearoa New Zealand to be the most active and inclusive local democracy in the world.

This vision forces us to imagine a new reality for local government – one that gets its power, momentum, richness and influence from the participation of its communities. To get there, we must enable local government so that more Kiwis want to speak up, participate, stand for office, vote on what they care about, be educated and understand that the future is in their hands.

#### Our four new leadership pillars will guide us.

Our new strategy is guided by four leadership pillars that have the potential to reset and facilitate lasting positive change.

- 01 Whakamana // Advocate**  
Be the source of credibility and authority for local government so we can champion and influence central government and our communities.
- 02 Whakahono // Connect**  
Connect different players in our ecosystem to bring strength to the whole sector.
- 03 Whakauru // Include**  
Ensure every New Zealander can participate, thrive and be represented by local government.
- 04 Whanake // Develop**  
Create the right environment to build capability and enable our councils to excel.

## Our priorities for the next 1-3 years are focused and impactful as we look to a more active and inclusive local democracy.

- 01 > Building capability in LGNZ so we're fit for purpose, sustainable and ready to deliver for our members.
- 02 > Aiming for strong mutually beneficial engagement and partnerships with central government, Iwi Māori and Taituarā.
- 03 > Ensuring local voice is heard on the important issues – three waters, resource management, housing, transport, climate change and the future for local government.
- 04 > Developing a broad diversity, equity and inclusion framework that grows awareness and understanding of local governance, Te Tiriti, encourages more diverse people to stand and creates safe spaces around the council table for people to thrive.
- 05 > Supporting councils to build capability and deliver excellence through a holistic overarching framework including development, CouncilMARK™ accreditation and consultancy.
- 06 > Building trust and confidence in local government through compelling storytelling, leveraging key programmes, such as MTFJ, and effective reputation management.

## Whakamana | Advocate

### We are local government's source of credibility and authority, and we influence others.

- > We are local democracy's vision and voice, making sure the sector's views are heard on the issues that matter.
- > When Ministers want to talk to local government, they come to us.
- > We dig deep into issues to create policy positions that reflect the national interests of the sector.
- > We steward the sector's reputation by working closely with media and influencers to share and champion local government stories every day.

We are a neutral, non-partisan organisation providing a forum for all members of local government to speak and be heard. As the largest collective of local government, we will always be heard by the Government of the day.

Through our network of connections we champion the things that matter most for the sector. Instead of many separate inputs we are one strong national voice, delivering a consistent message and impossible to ignore. Our relationships mean early involvement in policy development, where we take an evidence-based position to our advocacy, as informed by our members.

We provide media advice and coordination ensuring the public hears local government stories and understands its value so the reputation of the sector is enhanced.

We are the unashamed champions of local democracy.

### What we achieved:

In a year marked by an avalanche of reform, we advocated for local voice to be heard loud and clear across the three major reforms: Three Waters, Resource Management, and the Future for Local Government Review and beyond. At the heart of our advocacy programme has been strong sector engagement, a desire to be at the table with central government to influence decision-making and informed and pragmatic policy positions that champion the needs of local communities.

### Major reforms

#### Resource management

After more than 30 years, the Resource Management Act is to be repealed and replaced with the Natural and Built Environments Act, the Spatial Planning Act, and the Climate Adaptation Act. We've sought reform of the RMA for many years and are pleased that the Government has stepped up to the plate to deliver it. The reforms proposed are significant – and are intended to better protect the natural environment while better enabling the growth and development that our towns and cities need.

We've advocated strongly to influence the direction of the Resource Management reform – working with the Ministry for the Environment to identify key issues and opportunities to improve the current system. Thanks to our Heads of Agreement with the Crown, we were able to advocate strongly for and support the Local Government Steering Group. The group's

purpose is to provide a strategic advisory role across all aspects of the reform programme and it's making sure local views are taken into account – the sector's greatest concern with the reform.

As part of our extensive submission on the Natural and Built Environments Bill and presentation to the Environment Select Committee, we highlighted the impacts on local government, in particular issues with the influence centralisation will have on local voice and plans for transitioning to the new system. Our submission was informed by extensive legal advice (including commissioning an alternative governance model) and emphasised the importance of local communities retaining a strong voice in local place-making. We also developed a set of principles to underpin our work on the reform.

We've engaged widely with the sector across other aspects of the reform, including hosting a well-received Spatial Planning Symposium and commissioning extensive economic analysis on options for spatial planning. Our sector engagement is ongoing as we help our members to unpack what resource management reform entails and will mean for them and their communities.

### Three Waters

Three Waters has been one of the more contentious reforms for the sector to grapple with. With a majority government in power, it was clear three waters reform would be pushed through. From the beginning, our position was to influence decisions from inside the tent throughout the process, to deliver the best possible outcome for the sector and our communities.

We engaged with the sector early to provide guidance on what the reforms could mean for councils and their communities through regular sector communication and workshops and provided a range of technical experts to advise and guide councils through the process.

While the sector acknowledges the need for change, there were issues with the proposed model from the beginning. We lobbied the government to establish the Three Waters Steering Committee to share the sector's concerns and to influence the shape of the proposals. Our new approach to working with Government, not always against it, saw us negotiate a \$2.5b package for the sector through the Heads of Agreement, along with \$1m for expert technical support for councils during the eight week feedback period in August and September.

This approach didn't preclude us from calling out issues with the Government's model.

We pushed for the formation of the independent Governance, Representation and Accountability Working Group – to interrogate the sector's key concerns in these areas. We also advocated for the establishment of the Rural Supplies Technical Working Group to cast a lens on how the reform impacts our rural communities, and a Planning Technical Working Group to consider how the proposed water services entities will interface with the current and future resource management planning systems.

### Future for Local Government

The Future for Local Government Review presents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reset the role of local government in Aotearoa. Working with the sector on imagining what the future could look like has been a key priority this year.

Recognising the significant amount of reform underway that will impact on local government's traditional roles and responsibilities, we advocated for a Review that would work with the sector to ensure that local government is strengthened in the future. We made it clear that the Review couldn't be completed in isolation from other reforms and pushed for its scope to be broad. We then worked with Hutt City Council and the Minister's office to organise a hugely successful launch of the Future for Local Government Review and its independent panel at the Dowse Gallery in April 2021.

We conducted a number of facilitated sessions to gather feedback from councils on the future that they want to see. This included workshops on each of the Review Panel's five priority

question areas and key shifts; scenario workshops based on possible futures for local government; as well as supporting an independent sector group to develop a vision for what an integrated public service could look like and the role, functional and structural changes that would support it.

This engagement with the sector has supported our ongoing engagement with the Panel, and will inform submissions we make. From what we heard, we've advocated for a more participative and inclusive future that supports a thriving democracy, and that gives councils the opportunity to provide a much stronger role in promoting the wellbeing of their communities.

We have amplified our policy work through our active media engagement, which has highlighted the need to go further and called on the Government to step up to this challenge. We've also regularly raised our concerns about the rapid pace of change, with such a significant number of reforms being progressed at the same time.

## Policy priorities

### Climate Change

Climate change poses an unprecedented level of risk to people and places, with local government shouldering a large part of the responsibility for adaptation. Since declaring a climate change emergency in 2020, the Government has followed up with a significant programme of work to develop the country's first Emissions Reduction and National Adaptation Plans.

We've continued to take a leadership position on climate change. We've advocated strongly for local government input into the first National Adaptation Plan and the Emissions Reduction Plan. We've called on the Government to work in partnership with local government to support communities to contribute to our emissions reduction goals and to provide tangible support in the transition to a low-carbon economy. Through our policy submissions and engagement with central government, we've also emphasised the need for the Government to clarify what local government's roles and responsibilities are in the climate change mitigation and adaptation spaces and pushed the Government to develop much bolder and more directive plans to address climate change, including, for example, through the Ministry of Transport's Pathways to Net Zero by 2050 consultation.

### Libraries Partnership Programme

In 2021 we received funding from the National Library's New Zealand Libraries Partnership Programme to appoint a Libraries Advisor for a two-year period. We appointed a Libraries Advisor in late 2021. Our Libraries Advisor is engaging with local government leaders and officers to promote the value of councils investing in libraries, and the benefits that public libraries provide for communities' wellbeing. Our Libraries Advisor is also working to develop best practice guidance and

resources for local government, and providing local government perspectives to a number of library industry groups.

### Other policy issues

We've advocated strongly and worked on a number of other policy issues that are directly impacting councils and their communities, including:

- Advocating for councils to play a greater role in the provision of social housing.
- Working with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (MHUD) to better understand the housing market and the fiscal impact of councils becoming eligible for the Income Related Rent Subsidy.
- Working with MHUD to complete a preliminary assessment of council housing stock.
- Submitting on changes to the intensification rules under the National Policy Statement on Urban Development and continuing to advise Ministers and officials on implementation challenges.
- Helping secure a \$350 million fund (originally appropriated for the Covid-19 response) to help councils expand housing stock through new builds.
- Working with the Government and councils on the establishment of the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund.
- Submitting on the Ministry of Transport's Road to Zero strategy.
- Continuing our work as part of the Road Efficiency Group to support roading authorities in partnership with Waka Kotahi.
- Working alongside Taituarā to respond to Taumata Arowai's proposed Drinking Water Standards and Network Environmental Performance Measures.
- Responding to the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity, which built on our sector think piece.
- Advocating for, and supporting central government officials, to develop a number of changes that support better communication of natural hazards information on LIMs.
- Submitting on the Pae Ora (Healthy Futures) Bill and encouraging central government to ensure that local government plays a key role in the proposed locality planning.
- Providing input into the Government's review of the emergency management system, and encouraging central government to slow down this reform due to capacity challenges.
- Feeding into the development of New Zealand's first Infrastructure Strategy, including through participating in a Local Government Working Group established by the Infrastructure Commission.



## Whakahono | Connect

**We connect people and create strong networks to bring strength to the whole sector.**

- We create focussed and sector-wide forums where elected members and council staff can network to find inspiration, common ground and support.
- Our sector and member groups provide a space for targeted conversations, advocacy and connection in safe environments.
- We create opportunities for local government representatives to participate in central government advisory groups so their expertise and knowledge can be shared.
- Our group buying power offers commercial discounts and enhanced access to benefits like consultant advice, shared services, and funding opportunities.

Connection is vital for our elected members. It's complicated work and at times, thankless and isolating. Often only other elected members or staff really understand. Which is why we create forums where our council members can network, learn from experts and each other, share knowledge and be supported. Our national conference, webinar series and awards programme are all designed to share best practice and innovation while providing valuable support.

We provide the critical connection between central and local government maintaining relationships so we can talk to the right people at the right time, about the right things. Through our deep and wide network of connections, we can reflect local government views to the advisors, influencers and change-makers who are shaping the future around us.

Our group buying power also gives councils discounts and enhanced access to benefits like consultant advice, shared services and funding opportunities. Recently this has enabled greater access to forums and technologies such as the Road Efficiency Group, The Moata Carbon Portal, and Street Lighting Profiles.

### What we achieved:

#### Our Annual LGNZ Conference

Despite the Covid odds and amidst multiple cancellations, we managed to host 700 members at our Annual Conference in Blenheim in July last year. Our rejigged programme reflected many of the issues at the heart of the sectors concerns – Three Waters and the Future for Local Government. The Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Local Government all used the occasion to make major announcements and it was clear to all that the LGNZ Conference is a key event for anyone in local government. The Conference also celebrated the winners of the LGNZ Excellence Awards – Hastings District Council, Ōpōtiki District Council, Hamilton City Council and Auckland Council who attracted media coverage for their achievements and their regions.

#### Community Board conference

More than 120 delegates and presenters attended the Community Board conference in Gore in April. The theme was "Interconnected communities" and attracted widespread interest. Community Boards play a vital role in local governance in many communities around New Zealand and we're looking at how we better support and grow these in the future.

#### Revitalised member communications

With complex reforms, a global pandemic and enormous pressure on councils to deliver on core work, we felt it was important to rethink how and what we were communicating to our members. We developed a whole new member comms strategy to ensure we were targeting elected officials and key decision makers with key information in a timely plain English fashion. Our primary email "Keeping it Local" brings a summary of critical issues, best practice and upcoming events, while our specific reform emails deliver the latest news and information about the top three reforms – Three Waters, Resource Management and Future for Local Government. We're constantly reviewing and evolving how we communicate and share with the sector. Look out for new and innovative ways to engage with us in the future.

#### Member meetings

With Covid wreaking havoc on in-person meetings, again we had to pivot much of our member engagement last year to online hui. We focused our attention on sharing critical information in a timely manner using zoom hui to connect with our members and give them opportunities to connect with each other. We held 19 zoom hui with members to share intel and allow the sector to interrogate experts on key topics.

We also managed to host 11 sector meetings in person, including 4 metro, 4 regional and 3 R&P meetings.

Zones were able to connect more regularly with 23 meetings taking place over the year.

#### Meetings with the Prime Minister and Ministers

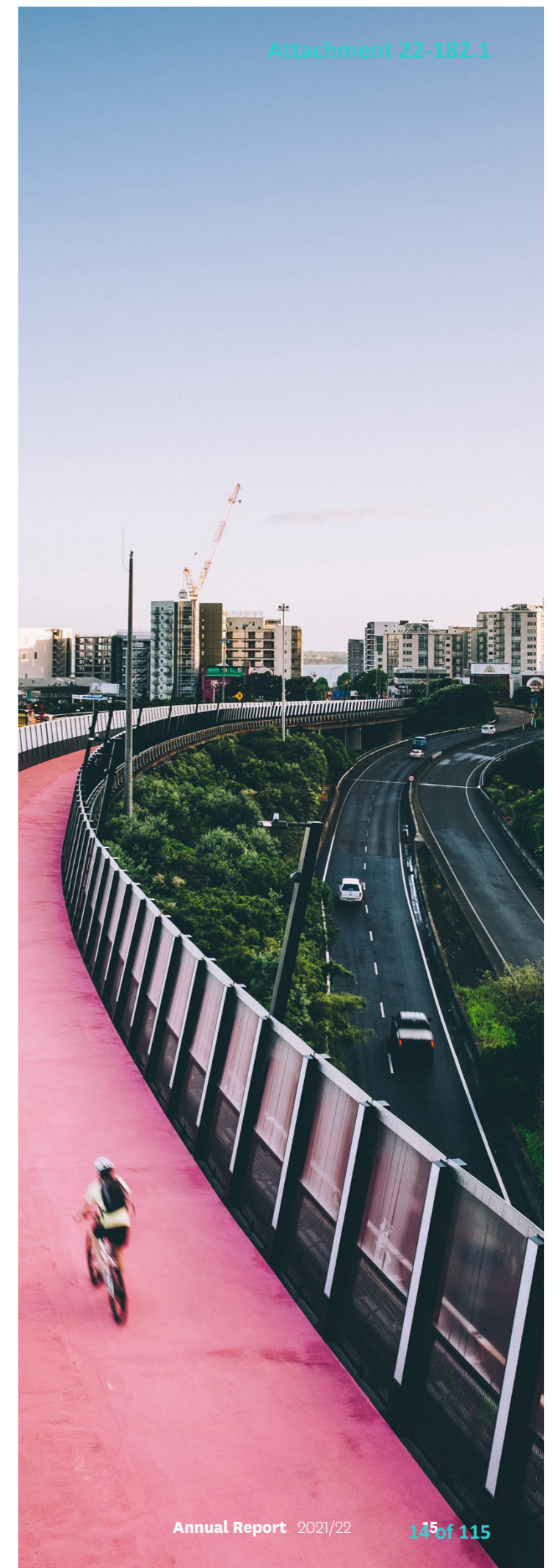
As already mentioned, a key plank to our advocacy was direct conversations with decision makers. In the 2021/22 year we met with Government Ministers 14 times and with many officials on a weekly basis.

We also supported Central Government/Local Government Forums to foster dialogue with the Prime Minister and Cabinet about the issues that matter most to the sector.

#### Telling the Local Government story

Media interest in local government was high throughout the year with LGNZ commenting on everything from climate change, coastal erosion, three waters reforms, councillor numbers and behaviour, to harassment and bullying of councillors, policy on cats, retirement issues, freedom camping, environment monitoring, resource management reforms and the Future for Local Government review. The introduction of Māori wards attracted a good deal of attention as did Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs, which received a flood of positive media coverage – first for the programme's impressive annual job placement numbers, and later for the successful launch of Think Rural.

We also got a lot of good cut-through in national media, highlighting issues surrounding housing density plans and the need for more holistic funding for related infrastructure, as well as the importance of standing for local government. This last topic is one we're pushing hard in the lead up to the local body elections in October 2022.



## Our programmes

### MTFJ

MTFJ continued its stellar performance connecting Aotearoa's rangatahi, Covid-displaced, and disabled people into jobs and training.

The programme leveraged the rocky uncertainty of Covid to develop a whole new partnership with MSD to help young people into employment in rural areas. In the first year of the new \$14m Community Recovery Programme (2020-21), MTFJ delivered 1,336 sustainable employment outcomes, which was 186 above its contractual target with MSD, and apprenticeships made up 21 per cent of placements. The second year (2021/22) saw an uplift in funding to \$14.65m and the Community Recovery Programme provide support to 29 rural and provincial councils who placed more than 1,450 young and Covid-displaced people into jobs throughout the year.

The huge success of MTFJ's Community Recovery Programme saw it sign an MOU with the Government to work in partnership together to get more young people into local jobs. The MOU was signed at the 2021 LGNZ Conference in Blenheim by Local Government Minister Nanaia Mahuta, Mayor Max Baxter, and LGNZ CE Susan Freeman-Greene. Other signatories to the MOU included Minister of Social Development and Employment Carmel Sepuloni, Minister of Māori Development Willie Jackson, Minister for Youth Priyanca Radhakrishnan, Minister of Education Chris Hipkins and the Minister for Pacific People Aupito William Sio. The MOU has four key areas of focus - driver licensing, education, health and the importance of rangatahi mentoring.

MTFJ also worked closely with Outward Bound to provide 40 rangatahi with scholarships, with more rangatahi placed through the Community Recovery Programme.

The MTFJ mentoring programme for rangatahi Māori, Tuia, was popular with our membership, with over 40 Mayors and other Council elected members participating.

Unfortunately, the ITO Mayoral graduations were heavy impacted by Covid, so numbers were down from previous years. However, it was great to see 25 Councils still able to hold ceremonies to celebrate the accomplishments of apprentices in their communities. We are looking forward to working with Councils next financial year to organise graduation ceremonies, made possible with a generous grant from Te Pukenga.

### PacificTA

With the arrival of Covid-19 in the Pacific Islands, and a number of leadership changes there, it's been a period of considerable disruption for our Pacific partners throughout 2021 and early 2022. In light of the impacts, it was agreed to extend the end date for the existing contract with MFAT from 30 June 2022 to 30 June 2023.

Despite the disruption, PacificTA has continued to engage and deliver. Asset management capability continues to grow in partner organisations with 160 people completing IPWEA's online asset management training. The value of asset management, planning and building control to manage climate risk and support resilience in Pacific communities is a continuing theme.

Advisors provided operational expertise that included asset registers and condition assessments, maintenance, and project planning and budgeting for capital expenditure. This work can have long lead times in the Pacific. For example, work with Infrastructure Cook Islands on condition assessments of the bridges in Rarotonga by Wellington City Council in 2016, has led to upgrades of the Avatiu Bridge in October 2020, and the Empire Bridge - currently under construction. These projects have supported the Cook Islands economy during the Covid border closures.

For local government partners facing urban growth pressure, investment in soft infrastructure is equally important. Open spaces and recreational activity support strong inclusive communities and long-term health outcomes. Port Vila City Council highlights this activity in their new five-year Corporate Plan, reinforcing the breadth of opportunities for investment in Pacific communities.

### Other activity included:

- Monthly meetings with Watercare and Water Authority Fiji
- Completion of standard operating procedures for Port Vila City Council finance team and the completion of the 2020 reconciliations after being provided targeted training
- Port Vila City Council signing an agreement of co-operation with Shefa Provincial Council (the result of highlighting these challenges on a study tour in New Zealand including Napier City and Hastings District Councils)
- Port Vila City Council successfully advocating for the operations and management of the new sports complex located in Shefa provincial Council jurisdiction
- Port Vila City Council starting the revaluation of properties in Port Vila
- Infrastructure Cook Islands maintaining the capital works programme after changes in the Head of Ministry and other leadership team members
- To Tatou Vai water treatment staff placement with Watercare
- Cook island participation (Ministry of Finance and Economic Management, Cook Island Investment Corporation and Infrastructure Cook Islands) and completing the IPWEA online asset management training
- Suva City Council reaching out for support after the Covid outbreak across finance, operations and planning.



## Whanake | Develop

### We build capability and expertise, enabling councils to excel.

- We keep members up to date on new developments, changes and issues.
- Our expert policy team share advice on anything and everything local government that comes out of the Beehive and beyond.
- We build capability through programmes, resources, tools and assurance which helps councillors and council staff thrive.
- We're a trusted, confidential ear who understands what councils are facing.

Local government is so fundamental to creating and nurturing thriving communities and yet we sometimes overlook the fact that our elected representatives need support to govern effectively. Our goal is to break the complex into simple, manageable chunks and support all our members to learn and grow. Our expert policy team keeps the membership up to date with all the latest developments, provides policy interpretation and shares advice on anything that might affect communities.

Our professional development programme is designed specifically to support elected members through every experience with a comprehensive induction for new members and an ongoing programme of upskilling for all.

We share best practice through targeted comms, PD and sector specialist webinars, enabling councils to lift their aspirations and performance.

We provide access to CouncilMARK™ accreditation and the improvement benefits it brings and through EQUIP we offer professional consultancy services that support individuals and councils to build their capability.

We're also a trusted, confidential listening ear who understands the sector's challenges and has the insights and experience needed to find solutions and grow the sector.

### What we achieved:

#### Professional Development

In May 2021 we held an incredibly well received Planning Symposium that saw almost 100 local government planners gather to work through the new paradigm for spatial planning that LGNZ developed. The aim of this paradigm was to explicitly make housing more affordable by lowering infrastructure costs and making land markets more efficient and effective, while also protecting the environment. It was supported by senior representatives from the Infrastructure Commission, Sense Partners, and Hamilton City Council.

We held four professional development webinars for members throughout the local government sector including: Quality Reports – Great decisions; NZTA Road to Zero; two CouncilMARK™ webinars and an SFO Webinar. We also ran six in person or in-house workshops on Maximising Meetings; Effective Debating; Chairing Practice; and Governance. We ran a very successful virtual workshop for Community Boards focussed on good Chairing practice and created two digital modules for DOC Community Boards.

- 16 programmes on EHUB
- 200 videos on EHUB
- 8,548 visitors accessed EQUIP

With our new strategy in place, we knew the time was right for a rethink of our whole Learning & Development offering. We started with some research to provide an evidence base to understand what our members really needed to improve their ability to govern, how the current programme was delivering for them and where the gaps were that needed to be filled. Once again, we worked with TRA to engage widely with the sector to understand their needs and provide insight into a future proofed L&D programme. We heard that the need for building capability is greater than ever; that elected members want more timely and relevant learning tailored to the specific needs of local government; they want more interactive, modern learning formats and there was a need for a massive culture shift inside councils so that learning is valued and planned for – rather than fought for. LGNZ needs to play a key role in advocating for this shift as well as providing high quality, targeted L&D across a broad spectrum of governance, cultural and policy issues.

That work was completed in March this year and we've spent the subsequent months building a new strategy and L&D framework, including a brand-new induction programme that we're excited to debut in October after the local government elections.

#### CouncilMARK™

Despite participation in our custom assessment programme, CouncilMARK™, being interrupted by the impacts of Covid, it continued to grow, with 11 councils participating in 2021/22. Five of these completed their second assessments, which identified a positive step change in performance.

With the current climate of uncertainty and change, it's more important than ever that councils feel equipped to understand how they're performing against their goals, have support to stay on a pathway of continual improvement, and can communicate the value they deliver to their communities. We want to better support our sector to drive these positive outcomes.

We engaged TRA do research into how the programme works for councils, what they get out of it, where CouncilMARK™ could improve and how we could get more councils participating. The research highlighted the demand and desire to retain a grading framework, and the value in retaining the current assessment, by wrapping the assessment into a wider supportive continuous improvement programme. The insights also supported the shift to further embed a continuous improvement programme and ethos into councils – and the need for a fundamental shift in the purpose, approach and the customer experience of CouncilMARK™. We used these learnings and many other conversations with CouncilMARK™ participants to help us improve the programme, which we'll relaunch in the coming year.





## Whakauru | Include

We ensure everyone can participate, thrive and be represented by local government.

- We work with the diversity across the sector to create greater understanding, connection and empathy for all.
- We create networks where diversity is nurtured and supported, like our Young Elected Members group and the Te Maruata Whānui.
- We promote local elections, encouraging more and more diverse people and communities to participate in local democracy, and advocate for civics education.

We work arm-in-arm with Taituarā, the membership body for local government officials, and our networks and advisory groups, such as Te Maruata and Young Elected Members, to champion a future focus and a truly diverse and representative local democracy.

All communities in Aotearoa are affected by the changes occurring across our nation, including the significant programme of reform underway in the local government sector that may change the form and function of local government.

Of the current mayors, councillors and other elected members: 40.5% are women, 13.5% are Māori and 56-60 is the average age. Only 13.9% are under the age of 40. Representation of multi-ethnic and Pasifika communities has also remained low. We need a wide diversity of candidates to stand in our elections and represent their communities when decisions are being made. We also need everyone to learn more about their local candidates, consider their motivations and vision, and have their voice heard when they vote.

### What we achieved:

#### Engaging with Māori

We recognised the importance and need for LGNZ to focus more heavily on our partnerships with Māori and our strategy for working towards LGNZ and the sector becoming more genuinely bicultural. We sought help from Tamati Shepherd-Wipiiti, a Partner at PwC, to work with Te Maruata and our staff to help develop an appropriate strategy and timeline for increasing our understanding of Te Ao Māori and build genuine relationships with both our local mana whenua and the Iwi Leaders Forum nationally. It culminated in Mana te Tiriti, a hui in Auckland in May with several PwC clients all on the same journey where we shared our stories and learnt ways to create allies and bring our strategy to life.

The Te Maruata hui at the Annual LGNZ Conference in July last year saw our largest-ever gathering of Māori elected members, who joined with Minister Mahuta, mana whenua and National Council to celebrate Iwi Māori participation in local government and imagine a new future.

#### Diversity, equity and inclusion strategy

We worked with Te Maruata, Young Elected Members (YEM), National Council, the Community Board Executive Committee and other key groups throughout local government to help us create a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion strategy that focuses on achieving outcomes such as:

- Embedding Te Ao Māori within the sector
- Improving council culture and wellbeing
- Building sector capability around cultural awareness
- Increasing diversity of representation
- Encouraging greater public and community engagement through storytelling and education
- Improving the Te Ao Māori knowledge, cultural awareness, diversity of our LGNZ staff and our and internal inclusion practises



#### Young Elected Members and their kaupapa

We advocated for and created a permanent YEM seat at National Council with full voting rights. This reflects a commitment that National Council gave to YEM previously, following the elevation of Te Maruata Roopu Whakahaere to full membership at the National Council table.

We supported the Young Elected Members network to finish developing Ngā Kaupapa a ngā Mema Rangatahi i Kōwhiria, the Young Elected Members' collective kaupapa. The YEM kaupapa shares the critical issues YEM is focused on where there is agreement that action needs to transcend any partisan positions. There are five focus areas:

- 01 Te Whakamana i Te Tiriti - Upholding Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- 02 Te Taiao me te Āhuarangi - Environment and Climate
- 03 Ngā Wai e Toru - Three Waters
- 04 He Kāinga Noho - Housing
- 05 He Tirohanga Anamata - A Future Focus

We're excited to help YEM share this important kaupapa widely in 2022.

#### Vote22 campaign

Encouraging more diverse people and communities to participate in local government is critical to a healthy thriving democracy. We want to see more New Zealanders both stand for local councils and vote for candidates to represent their communities. Our councils need to represent the communities they serve and that's not the case at the moment. And with just 41% turnout at the last election, we have a lot of work to do to make local government relevant to more Kiwis.

To do this, we developed the foundations of the Vote 2022 campaign, which focusses on getting more people to stand and vote in local elections in October 2022. In 2021, we worked with an award-winning agency to develop a campaign concept for the two-phase campaign and built relationships with councils across the country to join the campaign and amplify this national kōrero.

Vote22 is aimed at those people who haven't traditionally engaged in local democracy such as Māori, Pacific peoples, women, young people, the rainbow community, people with disabilities, and multi-ethnic communities. The campaign rolled out in March and 26 councils have joined so far.

## 02

## EQUIP

## Like councils EQUIP has adapted to changing Covid restrictions.

As a key service, the Road Transport Unit again moved into digital delivery across the national Roothing Efficiency Group learning and development programme, resulting in continuity of engagement with councils, and an increase in the overall quality of Asset Management Plans to Waka Kotahi. Councils were also feeling the pressure from the magnitude and scale of the sector reform agenda underway. EQUIP assisted by providing Elected Members advice as the resource management reform, Three Waters Reform and Future for Local Government work progressed.

### Key highlights:

- > Working with Waka Kotahi to embed the REG programme into the National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) and ensuring that the One Network Framework is embedded in the Government policy statement and council asset management planning.
- > Providing Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) project management oversight and delivery support.
- > Recruiting new chief executives for councils as they plan for the next five years of leadership.
- > Facilitating governance workshops on strategic outcomes and translating these into chief executive KPI frameworks.
- > Working with senior council officers to support governance monitoring through output and outcome reporting, alongside CouncilMARK™ Shadow Reviews.
- > Supporting Te Tiriti Māori partnership engagement with governance advice and officer delivery support.
- > Demonstrating rich pictures of local Covid-19 data and risk with our DotLovesData partnership.
- > Supporting capital carbon reporting with the Moata Carbon Portal and Mott MacDonald.
- > Enabling councils to save on dimmable streetlighting and auditing costs with our new dimming profiles in conjunction with Smart Power.



## 03

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## Directory

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

### Nature of Business

A membership organisation that represents local authorities in promoting the national interests of local government.

### Entity Name

New Zealand Local Government Association Incorporated -  
Trading as Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)

### Address

Level 1  
117 Lambton Quay  
Wellington 6011

### IRD Number

049-455-479

### Incorporation Number

374615

### Incorporation Date

1 February 1988

### Status

Registered Incorporated Society

### Chartered Accountant

Grant Thornton New Zealand Limited

### Auditor

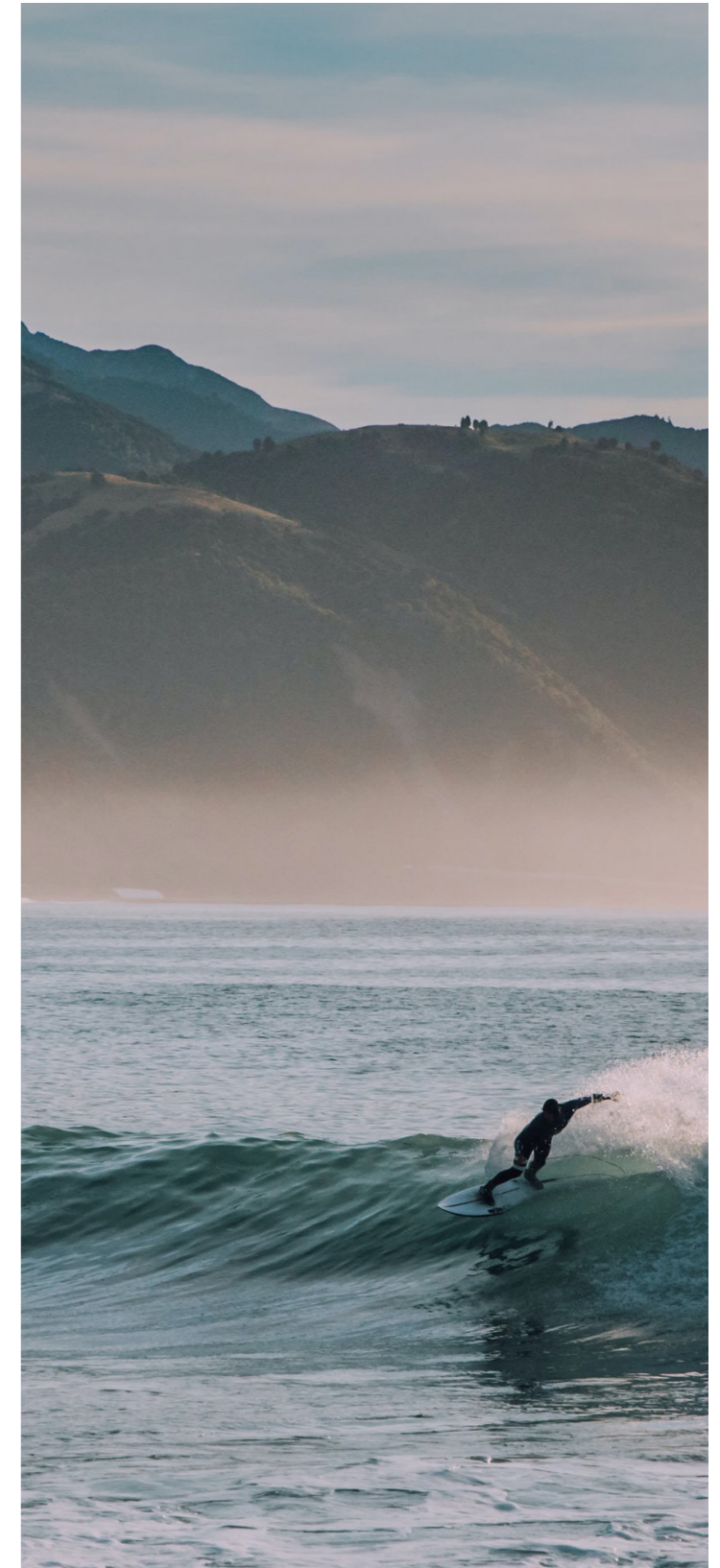
Deloitte Limited (on behalf of the OAG)

### Banker

ANZ Bank Limited

### Solicitor

Simpson Grierson



## Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		\$	\$
<b>Income</b>			
Annual Subscription Income		3,998,211	3,998,211
Annual Conference Income	5	981,855	-
CouncilMARK Assessment Income	6	64,750	175,500
EquiP Limited Partnership Income	12	1,835,871	1,975,402
Interest Income		19,211	29,448
Libraries Partnership Programme Funding		60,016	-
MTFJ Income		18,000	18,000
Pacific TA Income		346,000	346,000
Ratepayer Financing Scheme Income	9	320,622	80,000
Risk & Resilience Income	23	-	114,258
Sundry Income		35,412	10,000
Symposium and Event Income	14	-	51,713
Three Waters Reform Funding	8	2,205,264	-
Transparency International Income		20,000	-
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>9,905,212</b>	<b>6,798,532</b>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>9,905,212</b>	<b>6,798,532</b>
<b>Less Direct Costs</b>			
Annual Conference Expenditure	5	780,759	-
Committees and Advisory Boards Expenditure		70,145	136,316
Communications Expenditure		9,476	18,014
CouncilMARK Expenditure	6	87,944	175,357
EquiP Limited Partnership Expenditure	13	1,870,296	1,870,091
Governance Expenditure		99,517	111,879
Libraries Partnership Programme Expenses		60,016	-
Pacific TA Expenditure		184,930	196,358
People Costs		1,857,649	2,143,098
Policy Expenditure		106,675	208,596
Ratepayer Financing Scheme Expenditure	9	370,622	114,420
Strategy Expenditure		-	20,520
Three Waters Review		2,122,549	-
Risk & Resilience Expenditure	23	-	114,258
Sector Engagement Projects	10	198,798	-
Symposium and Event Expenditure		-	51,713
<b>Total Less Direct Costs</b>		<b>7,819,376</b>	<b>5,160,620</b>
<b>Gross Surplus</b>		<b>2,085,836</b>	<b>1,637,912</b>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 32-41.

## Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses (continued.)

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		\$	\$
<b>Less Operating Expenses</b>			
Accommodation/Occupancy		337,077	303,163
Advisory		100,224	50,303
CouncilMARK LGNZ Contribution	6	181,110	154,457
Financial		34,497	16,860
Fringe Benefit Tax		16,413	-
Honoraria		128,138	123,667
Insurance		51,010	50,023
Information Technology		206,778	133,134
Library		33,294	40,044
Office		127,552	147,849
Other Expenses	15	161,347	116,496
Staff Expenses		208,334	77,499
Strategic Review	7	159,055	-
<b>Total Less Operating Expenses</b>		<b>1,744,829</b>	<b>1,213,495</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>9,564,205</b>	<b>6,374,115</b>
<b>Net Surplus before Tax</b>		<b>341,007</b>	<b>424,417</b>
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expense</b>		<b>341,007</b>	<b>424,417</b>
<b>Total Surplus attributable to the Group</b>		<b>341,007</b>	<b>424,417</b>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 32-41.

## Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
<b>Accumulated Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses</b>		\$	\$
Opening Balance		1,681,295	1,588,859
<b>Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses</b>			
Surplus for the Year		341,007	424,417
<b>Total Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses</b>		<b>341,007</b>	<b>424,417</b>
<b>Transfers</b>			
Transfers from (to) other Reserves		175,997	(331,981)
Transfers from Three Waters Reform		250,000	-
<b>Total Transfers</b>		<b>425,997</b>	<b>(331,981)</b>
<b>Total Accumulated Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses</b>		<b>2,448,299</b>	<b>1,681,295</b>
<b>Emerging Issues Reserve</b>			
Opening Balance		500,000	500,000
<b>Total Emerging Issues Reserve</b>		<b>500,000</b>	<b>500,000</b>
<b>Three Waters Reform</b>			
Opening Balance		250,000	-
Transfer (to) / from Accumulated Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses		(250,000)	250,000
<b>Total Three Waters Reform</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<b>Other Reserves</b>			
Opening Balance		1,565,538	1,483,557
Transfer (out) / in from Accumulated Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses		(175,997)	81,981
<b>Total Other Reserves</b>		<b>1,389,541</b>	<b>1,565,538</b>
<b>Total Equity</b>		<b>4,337,840</b>	<b>3,996,833</b>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 32-41.

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
As at 31 March 2022

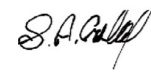
	Notes	2022	2021
		\$	\$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	16	6,432,787	6,520,559
Short Term Deposits		-	1,628,797
Receivables from Exchange Transactions	17	954,648	603,728
Income Tax Receivable		8,759	23,126
GST Receivable / (Payable)		77,776	(59,847)
Prepayments		127,773	204,664
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>7,601,743</b>	<b>8,921,027</b>
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	20	397,630	353,750
Intangibles	19	90,590	57,303
Investments	18	1,475	1,475
Work in Progress - Intangibles		-	43,307
<b>Total Non-Current Assets</b>		<b>489,695</b>	<b>455,835</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>8,091,438</b>	<b>9,376,862</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Trade and Other Payables		889,000	617,563
Provision for Annual Leave		122,398	102,767
Fit-Out Loan	24	28,515	26,459
Community Board Executive Committee Levy		72,059	66,116
Lease Incentive	25	31,875	54,375
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs	21	570,151	3,118,145
Annual Conference Income in Advance		410,739	509,639
Pacific Technical Assistance Income in Advance	22	1,087,723	843,922
CouncilMARK Income in Advance		9,250	-
Ratepayer Financing Scheme Income in Advance	9	229,378	-
Libraries Partnership Income in Advance	11	289,984	-
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>3,741,073</b>	<b>5,338,986</b>
<b>Non-Current Liabilities</b>			
Fit-Out Loan	24	12,526	41,043
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>12,526</b>	<b>41,043</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>3,753,598</b>	<b>5,380,029</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b>4,337,840</b>	<b>3,996,833</b>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 32-41.

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position (continued.)

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
As at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
<b>Net Assets Attributable to the Owners of the Controlling Entity</b>		\$	\$
Retained Earnings		2,448,299	1,681,295
Emerging Issues Reserve		500,000	500,000
Three Waters Reform		-	250,000
Other Reserves		1,389,541	1,565,538
<b>Total Net Assets Attributable to the Owners of the Controlling Entity</b>		<b>4,337,840</b>	<b>3,996,833</b>



S Crosby, President  
07 July 2022



S Freeman-Greene, Chief Executive  
07 July 2022

## Consolidated Statement of Cashflows

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		\$	\$
<b>Cashflow</b>			
<b>Cash from Operating Activities</b>			
<b>Cash was Provided from:</b>			
Receipts from Members & Stakeholders		10,206,917	7,107,379
Interest and Dividends Received		19,300	29,287
<b>Total Cash was Provided from:</b>		<b>10,226,217</b>	<b>7,136,666</b>
<b>Cash was Applied to:</b>			
Payments to Suppliers & Employees		(11,756,864)	(3,284,136)
RWT Paid		14,367	(5,292)
<b>Total Cash was Applied to:</b>		<b>(11,742,497)</b>	<b>(3,289,427)</b>
<b>Total Cash from Operating Activities</b>		<b>(1,516,280)</b>	<b>3,847,239</b>
<b>Cashflow from Investing Activities</b>			
<b>Cash was Provided from:</b>			
Proceeds from Maturity of Term Deposits		1,628,797	-
<b>Total Cash was Provided from:</b>		<b>1,628,797</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash was Applied to:</b>			
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment		(173,828)	(138,080)
Purchase of Term Deposits		-	(1,628,797)
<b>Total Cash was Applied to:</b>		<b>(173,828)</b>	<b>(1,766,876)</b>
<b>Total Cashflow from Investing Activities</b>		<b>1,454,969</b>	<b>(1,766,876)</b>
<b>Cashflow from Financing Activities</b>			
<b>Cash was Applied to:</b>			
Repayment of Loans & Borrowings		(26,461)	(24,554)
<b>Total Cash was Applied to:</b>		<b>(26,461)</b>	<b>(24,554)</b>
<b>Total Cashflow from Financing Activities</b>		<b>(26,461)</b>	<b>(24,554)</b>
<b>Net (Decrease)/Increase in Cash Held</b>		<b>(87,772)</b>	<b>2,055,810</b>
Add Opening Cash Brought Forward		6,520,559	4,464,749
<b>Bank and Cash</b>			
Bank and Cash		6,432,787	6,520,559
<b>Total Bank and Cash</b>		<b>6,432,787</b>	<b>6,520,559</b>

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 29-38.

These statements should be read in conjunction with the notes on pages 32-41.

# Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)  
For the year ended 31 March 2022

## 1. Reporting Entity

New Zealand Local Government Association Incorporated (trading as Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)) is an incorporated society registered under the Incorporated Society Act 1908.

The Consolidated Financial Statements of Local Government New Zealand includes EquiP Limited Partnership ("the Group"). Local Government New Zealand and EquiP GP Limited are the partners of EquiP Limited Partnership. EquiP GP Limited is owned 100% by Local Government New Zealand.

Local Government New Zealand is a membership organisation that represents local authorities in promoting the national interests of local government.

These consolidated financial statements have been approved and were authorised for issue by the National Council Members.

## 2. Statement of Compliance

The Group financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand ("NZ GAAP"). They comply with Public Benefit Entity International Public Sector Accounting Standards ("PBE IPSAS") and other applicable financial reporting standards as appropriate that have been authorised for use by the External Reporting Board for Public Sector entities. For the purposes of complying with NZ GAAP, the Group is a public benefit public sector entity and is eligible to apply Tier 2 Public Sector PBE IPSAS on the basis that it is not defined as large.

The Group has elected to report in accordance with Tier 2 Public Sector PBE Accounting Standards and in doing so has taken advantage of all applicable Reduced Disclosure Regime ("RDR") disclosure concessions.

## 3. Summary of Accounting Policies

The significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these consolidated financial statements as set out below have been applied consistently to both years presented in these financial statements. Certain balances have been reclassified on the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses to aid the readability for the users of the Financial Statements.

### 3.1 Basis of Preparation

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical cost, as modified by the fair value measurement of non-derivative financial instruments.

These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, and the accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

### 3.2 Functional and Presentation Currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars (\$), which is the Group's functional currency.

### 3.3 Basis of Consolidation

Controlled entities are all those entities over which the controlling entity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies so as to benefit from its activities. The controlled entities are consolidated from the date on which control is transferred and are de-consolidated from the date that control ceases. In preparing the consolidated financial statements, all inter entity balances and transactions, and unrealised gains and losses arising within the consolidated entity are eliminated in full. The accounting policies of the controlled entity are consistent with the policies adopted by the Group and have a 31 March 2022 reporting date.

All controlled entities are included in the financial statements of the Group.

### 3.4 Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefit will flow to the Group and revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received. The following specific recognition criteria must be met before revenue is recognised.

#### Revenue from exchange transactions

##### Subscription Income

Subscriptions received in exchange for annual access to members' activities are invoiced in April for the year they relate to.

Where members purchase specific services (for example, attendance at the LGNZ Conference), revenue is initially recorded as revenue in advance, and then recognised when the service is performed/event occurs.

##### Government contract revenue

Revenue from government contracts relates to income received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and is provided as funding for services the Group provides relating to the Pacific.

The Three Waters Project Funding is an agreement between LGNZ and the Department of Internal Affairs to enable LGNZ to support the Local Government Sector through the Government's Three Waters Reform Programme.

Revenue is recognised in the period the services are provided.

##### Event revenue

Entrance fees for functions and events are recorded as revenue when the function or event takes place.

##### Interest and dividend revenue

Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, using the effective interest method.

Dividend revenue is recognised when the dividend is received.

##### Other Revenue

All other revenue from exchange transactions is recognised when earned and is reported in the financial period to which it relates.

## 3.5 Financial Instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

### Financial Liabilities

The Group's financial liabilities include trade and other creditors (excluding GST and PAYE), employee entitlements, loans and borrowings and deferred revenue (in respect to grants whose conditions are yet to be complied with).

All financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value (plus transaction cost for financial liabilities not at fair value through surplus or deficit) and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### 3.6 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

### 3.7 Short Term Investments

Short term investments comprise term deposits which have a term of greater than three months and therefore do not fall into the category of cash and cash equivalents.

### 3.8 Property, Plant, Equipment and Depreciation

Items of property, plant and equipment are measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the asset. Where an asset is acquired through a non-exchange transaction, its cost is measured at its fair value as at the date of acquisition.

Depreciation is charged on a diminishing value or straight line basis over the useful life of the asset. Depreciation is charged at rates calculated to allocate the cost or valuation of the asset less any estimated residual value over its remaining useful life:

Furniture and Fittings	8% - 67%	Diminishing Value & Straight Line
Leasehold Improvements	10% - 40%	Diminishing Value

Depreciation methods, useful lives and residual values are reviewed at each reporting date and are adjusted if there is a change in the expected pattern of consumption of the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset.

### 3.9 Intangible Assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a non-exchange transaction is their fair value at the date of the exchange. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Following initial recognition, intangible assets are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Internally generated intangibles, excluding capitalised development costs, are not capitalised and the related expenditure is reflected in surplus or deficit in the period in which the expenditure is incurred.

The useful lives of intangible assets have been assessed as finite.

Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised on a diminishing value basis over the useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. Amortisation begins when the asset is available for use and ceases at the date that the asset is derecognised.

The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least at the end of each reporting period. Changes in the expected useful life or the expected pattern of consumption of future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset are considered to modify the amortisation period or method, as appropriate, and are treated as changes in accounting estimates.

The amortisation expense on intangible assets with finite lives is recognised in surplus or deficit as the expense category that is consistent with the function of the intangible assets.

The Group does not hold any intangible assets that have an indefinite life.

The amortisation periods for the Group's assets are as follows:

- Website 50%
- Computer Software 50%
- Governance Workshop 33%

### 3.10 Leases

Payments on operating lease agreements, where the lessor retains substantially the risk and rewards of ownership of an asset, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

#### Lease Incentives

The aggregate benefit of incentives as a reduction of rental expense over the lease term, on a straight-line basis unless another systematic basis is representative of the time pattern of the benefit from the use of the leased asset.

### 3.11 Borrowing costs

All borrowing costs are expensed in the period they occur. Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

### 3.12 Employee Benefits

#### Wages, salaries, annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries and annual leave are recognised in surplus or deficit during the period in which the employee provided the related services. Liabilities for the associated benefits are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months after the end of the period in which the employee renders the related service are measured based on accrued entitlements at current rates of pay.

### 3.13 Income Tax

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax expense is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates at the reporting date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is recognised using the balance sheet method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. Deferred tax is measured at the tax rates that are expected to be applied to the temporary differences when they reverse, based on the laws that have been enacted at the reporting date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised when it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which temporary differences can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reviewed at each reporting date and are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

The Group is only liable for income tax relating to non-member activities. Member income and associated expenditure is not liable for income tax. Income tax is payable on any services or goods provided to non-members and interest earned on investments.

### 3.14 Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised exclusive of GST except for receivables and payables, which are stated with the amount of GST included.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department is classified as part of operating cash flows.

### 3.15 Equity

Equity is the community's interest in the Group, measured as the difference between total assets and total liabilities. Equity is made up of the following components:

#### Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense

Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense is the Group's accumulated surplus or deficit since its formation, adjusted for transfers to/from specific reserves.

#### Emerging Issues Reserve

The National Council has approved creating a reserve of \$500,000 (2021: \$500,000) for strategic matters.

#### Three Waters Reform

The National Council decided it was no longer necessary to have a Three Waters Reform reserve due to receiving DIA funding during the year and that it should be returned to general accumulated revenue and expenses - \$Nil (2021: \$250,000).

#### Other Reserves

The National Council have approved the creation of other reserves for:

Funding expected March 2022 deficits for LGNZ and Equip - \$845,646 (2021 deficits: \$849,513 )

- Operational / Potential Organisational ceasing - \$543,895 (2021: \$716,025)

### 3.16 Operating lease commitments

The Group has entered into a rental agreement in relation to their premises.

The Group has determined, based on an evaluation of the terms and conditions of the arrangement, such as the lease term not constituting a substantial portion of the economic life of the asset, that it does not retain all the significant risks and rewards of ownership of this property and accounts for the contract as an operating lease.

## 4. Significant Accounting Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of the Group consolidated financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and the accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets or liabilities affected in future periods.

### Income Tax Expense

The Group has determined that the probability that future taxable profits will be available to be utilised is remote and no deferred tax asset is recognised.

### Judgements

In the process of applying the Group's accounting policies, management has made the following judgements, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the consolidated financial statements.

### Estimates and assumptions

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below. The Group based its assumptions and estimates on parameters available when the consolidated financial statements were prepared. Existing circumstances and assumptions about future developments, however, may change due to market changes or circumstances arising beyond the control of the Group. Such changes are reflected in the assumptions when they occur.

### Useful lives and residual values

The useful lives and residual values of assets are assessed using the following indicators to determine potential future use and value from disposal:

- The condition of the asset
- The nature of the asset, its susceptibility and adaptability to changes in technology and processes
- The nature of the processes in which the asset is deployed
- Availability of funding to replace the asset
- Changes in the market in relation to the asset

The estimated useful lives of the asset classes held by the Group are listed in Note 3.8 and 3.9.

5. Annual Conference	2022	2021
Annual Conference Revenue	981,855	-
Annual Conference Expenditure	(780,759)	-
Staff Remuneration and Overheads	(143,259)	-
<b>Net Annual Conference Profit</b>	<b>57,837</b>	<b>-</b>

The figures shown are for the 2021 Conference held in July 2021 in Blenheim.

Staff remuneration and overheads have been recorded in staff remuneration in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses. These relate to costs directly paid by Local Government New Zealand and part of its operations.

The 2022 Conference is scheduled to be held in July 2022 and final income and expenditure will be recorded in the financial statements dated 31 March 2023. Income and expenses as at 31 March 2022 for this conference are recorded as income in advance and prepayments on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

The 2020 Annual Conference was not held due to the impacts of Covid-19. The sunk costs not recoverable for the 2020 Annual Conference were reported separately in the Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expenses for 31 March 2020.

The 2020 Conference would have been held in the 2021 year. hence there are no comparatives for that year.

6. CouncilMARK Programme	2022	2021
<b>CouncilMARK Assessment Income</b>		
CouncilMARK Assessment Income	64,750	175,500
<b>Total CouncilMARK Assessment Income</b>	<b>64,750</b>	<b>175,500</b>
<b>CouncilMARK Expenditure</b>		
CouncilMARK Assessment Disbursement	(2,744)	(3,182)
CouncilMARK Assessment Fees	(85,200)	(172,175)
<b>Total CouncilMARK Expenditure</b>	<b>(87,944)</b>	<b>(175,357)</b>
<b>CouncilMARK LGNZ Contribution</b>		
CouncilMARK Board Expenses	(83,500)	(74,400)
CouncilMark Development Costs	(52,951)	(42,929)
CouncilMark Shadow Review Co-funding	-	(4)



	2022	2021
CouncilMark Travel Expenses	(31,600)	(12,859)
CouncilMARK Expenses Other	(13,059)	(24,265)
<b>Total CouncilMARK LGNZ Contribution</b>	<b>(181,110)</b>	<b>(154,457)</b>
<b>Total CouncilMARK Programme</b>	<b>(204,304)</b>	<b>(154,314)</b>

The CouncilMARK programme is designed to improve the public's knowledge of the work councils are doing in their communities and to support individual councils to further improve the value they provide to all New Zealanders.

The CouncilMARK Assessments incur a user pay fee which covers the cost of the assessment. It does not account for LGNZ time.

LGNZ contributed funds to set up the programme and continues to fund the programme manager, Board expenses and any development expenses to enhance the programme.

### 7. Strategic Review

A strategic review was undertaken and included insights research with the membership, leading to a refreshed vision and purpose, updated value proposition and revised strategy, and support for the organisational review. In the 2022 financial year, the Strategic Review incurred total costs of \$159,055 (2021: \$Nil).

### 8. Three Waters Reform

Three Waters Reform Funding of \$2,205,264 was received from the DIA in the 2022 year to support LGNZ's response to the Government's proposed Three Waters Reforms. Of this \$2,122,549 was used in the 2022 financial year.

### 9. Ratepayer Financing Scheme

Ratepayer Financing Scheme Revenue \$320,622 (2021: \$80,000) is a funding tool that supports affordability of local authority charges by providing ratepayers with very attractive financing terms while keeping councils whole.

The revenue, which was funded by five councils in the 2022 year is recognised as the costs are incurred, with the balance of the funds recorded as income in advance on the Statement of Financial Position. In 2022 expenses exceeded revenue by \$50,000, being the agreed contribution from LGNZ. The income in advance balance of \$229,378 as at 31 March 2022 will be expensed in the 2023 when the Business Case is completed.

In the 2022 financial year, total costs of \$370,622 (2021: \$114,420) were incurred relating to the Ratepayer Financing Scheme.

### 10. Sector Engagement Projects

Sector Engagement Projects are special purpose projects involving focused engagement with the sector and public for the benefit of the sector. In the 2022 year projects included:

- Development and delivery of the Vote 22 campaign
- Development and delivery of a sector wide wellbeing programme that supports elected members
- Response to the independent panel's review on the Future of Local Government and sector consultation
- Development and delivery of a new LGNZ Learning and Development offering to meet the needs of all elected members and the sector

In the 2022 financial year, total costs of \$198,798 (2021: \$Nil) were incurred relating to the Sector Engagement Projects.

### 11. Libraries Partnership Programme

The Libraries Partnership Programme (NZLPP) is funded by the DIA. In the 2022 year LGNZ has received \$350,000 of total funding available of \$450,000 to cover the employment of a Libraries Advisor and associated costs for the period 01 November 2021 to 31 December 2023. The key objective of the Libraries Advisor is to promote the value of investing in public libraries to local government decision-makers, and to demonstrate the value that libraries contribute to communities' wellbeing. The revenue is recognised as the costs are incurred, with the balance of the funds \$289,984 (2021: \$Nil) recorded as income in advance on the Statement of Financial Position. The balance of the funding will be received as milestones written into the contract are met.

### EquiP Limited Partnership

EquiP LP is New Zealand Local Government Association Incorporated's Centre of Excellence and is a Limited Partnership and separate legal entity wholly owned by Local Government New Zealand. Its purpose is to deliver tailored services, best practice guidance, business solutions, government and management support to strengthen the local government sector.

### 12. EquiP Limited Partnership Income

	2022	2021
Consultancy Services Income	1,787,155	1,820,632
Professional Development Income	48,716	154,770
<b>Total EquiP Limited Partnership Income</b>	<b>1,835,871</b>	<b>1,975,402</b>

### 13. EquiP Limited Partnership Operating Expenses

	2022	2021
Accountancy Fees	9,637	10,565
Audit Fees	13,720	10,688
IT Outsourcing	11,509	26,710

### 13. EquiP Limited Partnership Operating Expenses (continued.)

	2022	2021
Legal Expenses	11,301	2,261
Professional Development Costs	13,950	26,433
Staff Remuneration	514,793	616,897
Consultancy Services Costs	1,256,339	1,102,428
Webinar Costs	2,990	4,124
Other Operating Expenses	36,057	69,985
<b>Total EquiP Limited Partnership Operating Expenses</b>	<b>1,870,296</b>	<b>1,870,091</b>

### 14. Symposium and Event Income

	2022	2021
Climate Change Symposium Income	-	14,212
YEM Hui	-	37,501
<b>Total Symposium and Event Income</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>51,713</b>

### 15. Other Expenses

	2022	2021
Emerging Issues	10,000	-
COVID Response	-	6,113
Depreciation/Amortisation	98,667	116,849
New Zealand Transport Agency - ONRC	-	2,973
The Aotearoa Circle	10,000	10,000
Transparency International	40,000	-
Holiday Accrual	-	(32,932)
Membership Professional Advice	2,680	13,493
<b>Total Other Expenses</b>	<b>161,347</b>	<b>116,496</b>

### 16. Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2022	2021
Bank	4,772,004	2,560,530
Monies held for Mayors Taskforce For Jobs	570,151	3,118,145
Pacific Technical Assistance Bank Account	1,090,465	841,717
Petty Cash	167	167
<b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b>	<b>6,432,787</b>	<b>6,520,559</b>

### 17. Receivables from Exchange Transactions

	2022	2021
Annual Conference Debtors	296,831	177,338
Pacific Technical Assistance Debtors	4,223	4,133
Sundry Debtors	653,594	422,257
<b>Total Receivables from Exchange Transactions</b>	<b>954,648</b>	<b>603,728</b>

### 18. Investments

	2022	2021
Paintings/Artwork	1,475	1,475
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>1,475</b>	<b>1,475</b>

### 19. Intangibles

	2022	2021
<b>Computer Software</b>		
Computer Software at Cost	205,104	209,424
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(182,493)	(166,679)
<b>Total Computer Software</b>	<b>22,611</b>	<b>42,745</b>

19. Intangibles (continued.)	2022	2021
<b>Governance Workshop</b>		
Governance Workshop at Cost	416	14,975
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(416)	(417)
<b>Total Governance Workshop</b>	-	<b>14,558</b>
<b>Other Intangible Assets</b>		
Other Intangible Assets at Costs	71,044	-
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(3,065)	-
<b>Total Other Intangible Assets</b>	<b>67,979</b>	-
<b>Total Intangibles</b>	<b>90,590</b>	<b>57,303</b>

Reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and the end of the period:

Intangibles Reconciliation	2022	2021
<b>Computer Software</b>		
Opening Balance	42,746	77,548
Additions	11,648	6,353
Disposals	(15,967)	-
LGNZ Amortisation	(15,689)	(26,526)
Equip Amortisation	(127)	(14,630)
<b>Total Computer Software</b>	<b>22,611</b>	<b>42,745</b>
<b>Governance Workshop</b>		
Opening	14,559	-
Additions/Transfers from WIP	-	14,975
Disposals	(14,559)	-
Equip Amortisation	-	(417)
<b>Total Governance Workshop</b>	-	<b>14,558</b>
<b>Other Intangible Assets</b>		
Opening	-	-
Additions	71,044	-
LGNZ Amortisation	(2,022)	-
Equip Amortisation	(1,043)	-
<b>Total Other Intangible Assets</b>	<b>67,979</b>	-
<b>Total Intangibles</b>	<b>90,590</b>	<b>57,303</b>

20. Property, Plant and Equipment	2022	2021
<b>Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>		
Furniture & Fittings at Cost	622,472	506,552
Less Accumulated Amortisation	(420,237)	(361,937)
<b>Total Furniture &amp; Fittings</b>	<b>202,235</b>	<b>144,615</b>
<b>Leasehold Improvements</b>		
Leasehold Improvements at Cost	410,143	402,392
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(214,748)	(193,257)
<b>Total Leasehold Improvements</b>	<b>195,395</b>	<b>209,135</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>397,630</b>	<b>353,750</b>

Reconciliation of the carrying amount at the beginning and the end of the period:

Property, Plant and Equipment Reconciliation	2022	2021
<b>Furniture and fittings</b>		
Opening Balance	144,615	113,603
Additions	153,118	84,196
Disposals	(37,200)	(1,578)
LGNZ Depreciation	(55,914)	(43,346)
Equip Depreciation	(2,384)	(8,260)
<b>Total Furniture and fittings</b>	<b>202,235</b>	<b>144,615</b>
<b>Leasehold Improvements</b>		
Opening Balance	209,136	232,809
Additions	7,750	-
LGNZ Depreciation	(21,491)	(23,674)
<b>Total Leasehold Improvements</b>	<b>195,395</b>	<b>209,135</b>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b>397,630</b>	<b>353,750</b>

## 21. Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs

The Mayor's Taskforce For Jobs ("the MTFJ") is separately funded and Local Government New Zealand provides management and administration services. All receipts of income and payment of expenses and grants, although separately accounted for via the MTFJ fund, are recorded through Local Government New Zealand's bank account.

For the purpose of these consolidated financial statements the monies held on behalf of the MTFJ are recorded separately within cash and cash equivalents, see note 16, in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position along with the corresponding liability.

MTFJ is grouped with LGNZ for GST purposes and LGNZ employs the Taskforce Coordinator.

In July 2021 LGNZ signed another contract to continue the successful partnership between MTFJ and the Ministry of Social Development to provide funding to rural councils to assist them in the creation of sustainable employment placements for youth as part of the Government's continued COVID response (Community Recovery Programme). In the 2022 year the scope was widened to include some provincial councils.

Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs	2022	2021
Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ)	570,151	3,118,145
<b>Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ)</b>	<b>570,151</b>	<b>3,118,145</b>

## 22. Pacific Technical Assistance

The Pacific Technical Assistance is in its second, five year agreement, between Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and Local Government New Zealand. This second agreement was entered into on 8 May 2017. The agreement is to provide technical assistance to local government development in Pacific Island countries. The funding is made available under the Pacific Technical Assistance Programme's State Sector Programme and has been extended to 30 June 2023.

The programme now has two dedicated full-time staff members, the costs of which are recorded in PacificTA Expenditure.

	2022	2021
<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>\$843,922</b>	<b>\$373,646</b>
Funds Received	\$806,000	\$886,000
<b>Total Funds Received</b>	<b>\$1,649,922</b>	<b>\$1,259,646</b>
<b>Funds Used</b>		
LGNZ Assistance	\$346,000	\$346,000
Cook Islands	\$73,178	\$6,713
Fiji	\$7,709	\$15,875
Solomon Islands	\$4,424	\$0
Tokelau	\$4,914	\$6,494
Vanuatu	\$125,974	\$40,641
<b>Total Funds Used</b>	<b>\$562,199</b>	<b>\$415,723</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>\$1,087,723</b>	<b>\$843,922</b>

### 23. Risk & Resilience

In 2016 LGNZ received Crown funding to establish the Local Government Risk Agency (LGRA), whose objective was to improve the risk management maturity of local authorities by providing risk management services. This project did not progress beyond presentation of the Business Case.

It was agreed in 2021 that the remaining LGRA funds would be used for a subsequent scope of work around Risk and Resilience (Three Waters Modelling Tool for Council use). The work was to be completed in the 2022 year utilising the left over funds of \$61,262 and carried forward from 2021. As the Government's Three Waters policy matured, offering councils a better package of funding, the LGNZ project was superseded. It was agreed to cease the project and to return the funds to LGNZ Advocacy and Sundry income.

Risk & Resilience Income - \$Nil (2021: \$114,258)

Risk & Resilience Expenses - \$Nil (2021: \$114,258)

	2022	2021
<b>24. Loans</b>		
<b>Current Portion of Loans</b>		
Current Portion of Fit-Out Robt. Jones Holdings Limited	28,515	26,459
<b>Total Current Portion of Loans</b>	<b>28,515</b>	<b>26,459</b>
<b>Non-Current Portion of Loans</b>		
Loan Fit-Out Robt. Jones Holdings Limited	12,526	41,043
<b>Total Non-Current Portion of Loans</b>	<b>12,526</b>	<b>41,043</b>
<b>Total Loans</b>	<b>41,041</b>	<b>67,502</b>

The landlord agreed to fund Local Government New Zealand's Fit-out to the amount of \$200,000. This has been funded by a loan advance to Local Government New Zealand, which is then repaid over the initial lease term of 9 years at an interest rate of 7.5% per annum.

	2022	2021
<b>25. Lease Incentive</b>		
Lease Incentive	31,875	54,375
<b>Total Lease Incentive</b>	<b>31,875</b>	<b>54,375</b>

Local Government New Zealand record a lease incentive liability for the rent free period of nine months, and then allocate this rent free period over the term of the lease by a reduction in the annual rental expenses.

### 26. Leases

At the reporting date, the Group has entered into the following non-cancellable operating leases:

	2022	2021
<b>Leases</b>		
Later than one year	316,325	316,325
Later than one year and no later than five years	131,978	448,113
Later than five years	-	-
<b>Total Leases</b>	<b>448,303</b>	<b>764,438</b>

### 27. Related Parties

#### Equip Limited Partnership

Local Government New Zealand received Accommodation fees of \$6,602 (2021: \$8,803) and Services Agreement fees of \$21,900 (2021: \$29,200) from Equip Limited Partnership.

There is net \$22,944 outstanding to/(from) Equip Limited Partnership at balance date (2021: (\$30,132)). These transactions are eliminated on consolidation.

#### The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs

The Mayor's Taskforce for jobs ("the MTFJ") is a related party, as there is member commonality with the MTFJ Board and the National Council.

Management Fees of \$18,000 (2021: \$18,000) were paid from MTFJ.

#### Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel, as defined by PBE IPSAS 20 Related Party Disclosure, are the members of the governing body being the Chief Executive, two Deputy Chief Executives, Director of Advocacy and two managers in Equip. No remuneration is paid to members of the Board. The aggregate remuneration of key management personnel and the number of individuals, determined on a full-time equivalent basis, receiving remuneration is as follows:

	2022	2021
<b>Key Management Remuneration</b>		
Total Remuneration	1,339,421	1,331,755
Number of persons	6	6

### Honoraria

Honoraria of \$98,568 (2021: \$95,128) and \$29,570 (2021: \$28,539) were paid to the President and Vice President respectively during the year ended 31 March 2022.

No other monetary remuneration was paid to members of the National Council for their services.

### 28. Categories of Financial Assets and Liabilities

The carrying amounts of financial instruments presented in the statement of financial position relate to the following categories of assets and liabilities:

	2022	2021
<b>Financial Assets</b>		
<b>Loans and Receivables</b>		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	6,432,787	6,520,559
Accounts Receivable	954,648	603,728
<b>Total Loans and Receivables</b>	<b>7,387,435</b>	<b>7,124,287</b>
<b>Financial Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	617,565	617,565
Annual Conference Sponsorship and Deposits Received in Advance	410,739	509,639
Loans and borrowings	41,041	67,502
Provision for Annual Leave	122,398	102,767
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>	<b>1,191,743</b>	<b>1,297,473</b>

	2022	2021
<b>29. Income Tax Expense</b>		
<b>Components of tax expense</b>		
Adjustments to current tax in prior years	-	-
<b>Tax expense</b>	-	-
<b>Relationship between tax expense and accounting surplus</b>		
Surplus before tax	341,007	424,417
<b>Tax at 28%</b>	<b>95,482</b>	<b>118,837</b>
<b>Plus / (less) tax effect of:</b>		
Non-deductible expenditure	1,294,906	665,038
Non-taxable revenue	(1,736,973)	(1,119,499)
Deferred tax not recorded	346,586	335,625
<b>Tax expense</b>	-	-
<b>Deferred tax assets / (liabilities)</b>	-	-
Opening balance	-	-
Charged to surplus or deficit	-	-
<b>Closing balance</b>	-	-

Income Tax Receivable on the Consolidated Statement of Financial Position refers to Resident Withholding Tax receivable at balance date.

Local Government New Zealand has tax losses available to offset against future taxable income of \$9,390,854 (2021: \$8,153,048). Tax losses are subject to Inland Revenue confirmation.

No deferred tax asset has been recognised for an amount of \$2,629,439 (2021: \$2,282,853) due to uncertainty that Local Government New Zealand will report taxable profits in the future to offset against accumulated tax losses.

### 30. Capital Commitments

There are no capital commitments at the reporting date (2021: \$nil).

### 31. Contingent Assets and Liabilities

There are no contingent assets or liabilities at the reporting date (2021: \$nil).

### 32. Events after the Reporting Date

There are no subsequent events after balance date that require disclosure.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE READERS OF NEW ZEALAND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED'S FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Auditor-General is the auditor of New Zealand Local Government Association Incorporated (the Association). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Pamela Thompson, using the staff and resources of Deloitte Limited, to carry out the audit of the financial statements of the Association on his behalf.

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Association on pages 24 to 41, that comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 March 2022, the consolidated statement of comprehensive revenue and expenses, consolidated statement of changes in net assets and statement of cashflows for the year ended on that date and the notes to the financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements of the Association:

- present fairly, in all material respects:
  - its financial position as at 31 March 2022; and
  - its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand in accordance with Public Benefit Entity Standards (Reduced Disclosure Regime).

Our audit was completed on 7 July 2022. This is the date at which our opinion is expressed.

The basis for our opinion is explained below. In addition, we outline the responsibilities of the National Council and our responsibilities relating to the financial statements, and we explain our independence.

#### Basis for our opinion

We carried out our audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Responsibilities of the auditor section of our report.

We have fulfilled our responsibilities in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the National Council for the financial statements

The National Council is responsible on behalf of the Association for preparing financial statements that are fairly presented and that comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. The National Council is responsible for such internal control as it determines is necessary to enable it to prepare financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the National Council is responsible, on behalf of the Association, for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. The National Council is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the National Council intends to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The National Council's responsibilities arise from the Incorporated Societies Act 1908.



#### Responsibilities of the auditor for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements, as a whole, are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements are differences or omissions of amounts or disclosures, and can arise from fraud or error. Misstatements are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the decisions of readers taken on the basis of these financial statements.

We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Also:

- We identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- We obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Association's internal control.
- We evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the National Council.
- We conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the National Council and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements, or if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- We evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the National Council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Our responsibilities arise from the Public Audit Act 2001.

#### Independence

We are independent of the Association in accordance with the independence requirements of the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the independence requirements of Professional and Ethical Standard 1: *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

Other than in our capacity as the auditor, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Association.

Pamela Thompson  
Deloitte Limited  
On behalf of the Auditor-General  
Wellington, New Zealand

## 04

# NATIONAL COUNCIL AND STAFF

## National Council

**Stuart Crosby** | President | Councillor, Bay of Plenty Regional Council

**Hamish McDouall** | Vice President | Provincial Sector | Mayor, Whanganui District Council

**Hon Phil Goff** | Mayor, Auckland Council

**Pippa Coom** | Councillor, Auckland Council

**Richard Northey** | Local Board, Auckland Council

**Aaron Hawkins** | Metro Sector | Mayor, Dunedin City Council

**Andy Foster** | Metro Sector | Mayor, Wellington City Council

**Grant Smith** | Metro Sector | Mayor, Palmerston North City Council

**Doug Leeder** | Regional Sector | Chair, Bay of Plenty Regional Council

**Rachel Reese** | Regional Sector | Mayor, Nelson City Council

**Alex Walker** | Rural Sector | Mayor, Central Hawke's Bay District Council

**Hon John Carter** | Zone One | Mayor, Far North District Council

**Jim Mylchreest** | Zone Two | Mayor, Waipā District Council

**Don Cameron** | Zone Three | Mayor, Ruapehu District Council

**Wayne Guppy** | Zone Four | Mayor, Upper Hutt City Council

**Sam Broughton** | Zone Five | Mayor, Selwyn District Council

**Gary Kircher** | Zone Six | Mayor, Waitaki District Council

**Bonita Bigham** | Te Maruata Roopu Whakahaere | Community Board Member, South Taranaki District Council

**Tamzin Letele** | Young Elected Members | Whangamata Community Board Member, Thames-Coromandel District Council

**Lan Pham** | Young Elected Members | Councillor, Environment Canterbury

**Lianne Dalziel** | Co-opted | Mayor, Christchurch City Council

## LGNZ staff (as of 31 March 2022)

**Amanda Wells** | Strategic Communications and Engagement Manager

**Amy Flynn** | Digital Marketing Specialist

**Bridgit Sissons** | Deputy Chief Executive

**Charlotte McKay** | Policy Advisor

**Claudia Pope** | Executive Assistant

**Devanga Wanigasinghe** | Community Partnerships Manager

**Emma Anderson** | MTFJ Programme Manager

**Erica Thomas** | People and Culture Manager

**Frances Sullivan** | PacificTA Programme Manager

**Fraser Pearce** | Principal Policy Advisor

**Grace Hall** | Director Advocacy and Policy

**Joseph Stannard** | Professional Development Digital Production

**Lauren Gibson** | Marketing Manager

**Louisa Naftel** | Events Coordinator

**Maddie Barnett** | Team Coordinator Policy

**Marion Read** | Library Advisor

**Dr Mike Reid** | Principal Policy Advisor

**Nicci Wood** | Principal Policy Advisor

**Sarah McLean** | Team Support Corporate Services, PacificTA and EQUIP (on maternity leave)

**Scott Necklen** | Deputy Chief Executive

**Susan Freeman-Greene** | Chief Executive

**Tracey McIntyre** | Team Support Communications and Engagement

**Trudi Mackay** | Finance Manager

## EQUIP staff

**Dr Steven Finlay** | General Manager

**Mark McKeag** | Senior Consultant

# We are. LGNZ.

Te Kāhui Kaunihera o Aotearoa.

PO Box 1214  
Wellington 6140  
New Zealand

P. 64 4 924 1200  
www.lgnz.co.nz

## We are.

Ashburton.	Gisborne.	Kaikōura.	Otago.	Southland Region.	Waipā.
Auckland.	Gore.	Kaipara.	Ōtorohanga.	Stratford.	Wairoa.
Bay of Plenty.	Greater Wellington.	Kāpiti Coast.	Palmerston North.	Taranaki.	Waitaki.
Buller.	Grey.	Kawerau.	Porirua.	Tararua.	Waitomo.
Canterbury.	Hamilton.	Mackenzie.	Queenstown- Lakes.	Tasman.	Wellington.
Carterton.	Hastings.	Manawatū.	Rangitikei.	Taupō.	West Coast.
Central Hawke's Bay.	Hauraki.	Marlborough.	Rotorua Lakes.	Tauranga.	Western Bay of Plenty.
Central Otago.	Hawke's Bay Region.	Masterton.	Ruapehu.	Thames- Coromandel.	Westland.
Chatham Islands.	Horowhenua.	Matamata-Piako.	Selwyn.	Upper Hutt.	Whakatāne.
Christchurch.	Hurunui.	Napier.	South Taranaki.	Waikato District.	Whanganui.
Clutha.	Hutt City.	Nelson.	South Waikato.	Waikato Region.	Whangarei.
Dunedin.	Invercargill.	New Plymouth.	South Wairarapa.	Waimakariri.	<b>LGNZ.</b>
Far North.		Northland.	Southland District.	Waimate.	
		Ōpōtiki.			

Who's  
putting local  
issues on  
the national  
agenda?

**We are.  
LGNZ.**

Te Kāhui Kaunihera o Aotearoa.

# 2022 Annual General Meeting

## BUSINESS PAPERS

Thursday 28 July 9.00 – 11.00am

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Zoom

## AGENDA

Te Nama o te Take   Item No.	Ngā Take mō te Rārangi Take   Agenda items	Report No.	Te Nama o te Ripa   Tab No.		
1	Welcome and apologies The President will invite members to add to the apologies register during the meeting via chat.	1	1		
2	Obituaries The President will invite members to add to the obituaries register during the meeting via chat.	2	2		
3	Proceedings 2021 Annual General Meeting <b>Motion: That the 2021 proceedings be received.</b>	3	3		
4	President's address				
5	Annual Report Separate document <b>Motion: That the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2022 be received.</b>				
6	Financial Statements 2021/22 Separate document (Annual Report pages 25-43) <b>Motion: That the consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022 be received and adopted.</b>				
7	Debating and voting procedures <b>Motion: That the proxies for Councils be received.</b>	4	4		
8	Remit outcome report 2021 <b>Motion: That the report on outcomes of remits passed at the 2021 AGM be received.</b>	5	5		
9	<table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="327 1332 742 1579"> Remits:  1. Central government funding for public transport  2. Review of Government transport funding  3. Illegal street racing </td> <td data-bbox="742 1332 1189 1579"> 4. Bylaw infringements  5. Density and proximity of vaping retailers  6. Polling LGNZ members </td> </tr> </table>	Remits: 1. Central government funding for public transport 2. Review of Government transport funding 3. Illegal street racing	4. Bylaw infringements 5. Density and proximity of vaping retailers 6. Polling LGNZ members	1-6	6
Remits: 1. Central government funding for public transport 2. Review of Government transport funding 3. Illegal street racing	4. Bylaw infringements 5. Density and proximity of vaping retailers 6. Polling LGNZ members				
10	Reports from Sector Groups and Zones <b>Motion: That the 2021/22 sector group and zone annual reports be received.</b>	7	7		
11	General business The next Annual General Meeting date and venue will be announced at the AGM.	8	8		



# 1

## Apologies

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We have not received any apologies.

Please advise Local Government New Zealand of any other apologies prior to the AGM – [agm@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:agm@lgnz.co.nz)

Further apologies may be collected during the AGM via chat.

# 2

## Obituaries

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The following obituaries have been received:

Hugh Barr	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Michael Peter Cecil Gibson	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Sir Michael Fowler	Wellington City Council
Jeroen Jongejans	Whangarei District Council
Sydney Warwick (Sandy) Dobbin	Whanganui District Council

Please advise Local Government New Zealand of any other obituaries prior to the AGM – [agm@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:agm@lgnz.co.nz)

Further obituaries may be collected during the AGM via chat.

# 3

## Proceedings

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## Proceedings for the Thirty-fourth Annual General Meeting

### New Zealand Local Government Association Inc (LGNZ)

17 July 2021, 9.00am

Marlborough Events Centre, 42A Alfred Street, Blenheim 7201, Blenheim

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#### Item one – Welcome and Apologies

The President notified the meeting of the apologies to date and called for any further apologies.

#### Council apologies

Grey District Council

Buller District Council

Westland District Council

Thames-Coromandel District Council (early departure)

#### Individual apologies

Jamie Cleine

Buller District Council

Tania Gibson

Grey District Council

Malcolm Campbell

Kawerau District Council

Craig Mackle

Kaikōura District Council

Rachel Keedwell

Horizons Regional Council

Heather Shotter

Palmerston North City Council

Russ Rimmington

Waikato Regional Council

Stu Husband

Waikato Regional Council

Gary Tong

Southland District Council

Cameron McIntosh

Southland District Council

David Trewavas

Taupō District Council

Jim Boulton

Queenstown-Lakes District Council

Calum MacLeod

Queenstown-Lakes District Council

Andy Foster

Wellington City Council (late)

Rick Barker

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Rob Forlong

Whangarei District Council

Clare Hadley

Invercargill City Council

Neil Goodger

Matamata Piako District Council

That the apologies for the 2021 LGNZ Annual General Meeting on 17 July 2021 be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor H McDouall, Whanganui District Council

Carried

AGM1/17/07/21

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### Item two – Obituaries

The President notified the meeting of the obituaries to date and called for any further obituaries.

Dave Cull	Dunedin City Council
Jan Tucker	West Harbour Community Board
Sally Anna Buck	Christchurch City Council
David Walker	Taranaki Regional Council
Allan Anderson	Whanganui District Council
Rana Waitai	Whanganui District Council
Jenny Tolhurst	Whanganui District Council
Dave Vallely	Whanganui District Council
Chester Burt	Pahiatua Borough Council
Eric Davy	Nelson City Council
Dorothy Matthews	Nelson City Council
Noala Massey	Christchurch City Council
Margaret Forsyth	Hamilton City Council
Charles Sturt	Rotorua Lakes Council

That the obituaries for the 2021 LGNZ Annual General Meeting on 17 July 2021 be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor H McDouall, Whanganui District Council

Carried

AGM2/17/07/21

### Item three – Proceedings

That the 2020 LGNZ Annual General Meeting proceedings be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: Mayor H McDouall, Whanganui District Council

Seconded: Mayor J Carter, Far North District Council

Carried

AGM3/17/07/21

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### Item four – President’s address

S Crosby gave his address.

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### Item five – Annual Report

That the Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2021 be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor A Walker, Central Hawke’s Bay District Council

Carried

AGM4/17/07/21

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### Item six – Financial Statements

That the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021 be **RECEIVED** and **ADOPTED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor J Mylchreest, Waipā District Council

Carried

AGM5/17/07/21

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### Item seven – Debating and voting procedures

S Freeman-Greene, as returning officer of LGNZ, explained the debating and voting procedures for the Annual General Meeting and advised that there would be 75 councils voting due to the absence of Grey District Council, Buller District Council and Westland District Council.

There were no proxies to be received.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor H McDouall, Whanganui District Council

Carried

AGM6/17/07/21

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### Item eight – Life member: John Forbes

That the members of Local Government New Zealand agree to award life membership to John Forbes.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor J Carter, Far North District Council

Carried

AGM7/17/07/21

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### Item nine – Proposed amendments to the Rules

That the amendments to provide Young Elected representation on National Council be adopted; and that the amendments specified be incorporated into the Rules, and that the complete amended Rules be submitted for registration as the Rules of LGNZ (New Zealand Local Government Association Inc).

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor A Hawkins, Dunedin City Council

Carried

AGM8/17/07/21

Additional speakers for the motion:

- Mayor Max Baxter, Ōtorohanga District Council
  - Mayor John Carter, Far North District Council
  - Mayor Sam Broughton, Selwyn District Council
-

### Item ten – Remit outcome report 2020

That the report on outcomes of remits passed at the 2020 AGM be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM9/17/07/21

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### Item eleven – 2021 Remits

#### Remit one – Tree protection

Motion:

That LGNZ advocate that the provisions that were added to the RMA, that restricted tree protection, be repealed urgently and that this change be carried through into new resource management legislation, thereby restoring the right to councils to adopt and enforce locally appropriate policies to protect trees in their district. That LGNZ advocate to use the current RMA reform process to ensure these changes are carried through into new legislation.

Moved: Mayor P Goff, Auckland City Council

Seconded: Mayor S Chadwick, Rotorua Lakes Council

Carried

AGM10/17/07/21

Additional speaker for the motion:

- Mayor Hamish McDouall, Whanganui District Council

Speaker against the motion:

- Mayor Sandra Goudie, Thames-Coromandel District Council

#### Remit two – Rating Value of Forestry Land

Motion:

That LGNZ request the Valuer General amend the relevant legislation to allow for Local Government to address the growing disparities between the rating valuation of forestry land and other land uses.

Moved: Mayor R Stoltz, Gisborne District Council

Seconded: Mayor C Little, Wairoa District Council

Carried

AGM11/17/07/21

Speaker against the motion:

- Dave Donaldson, Rotorua Lakes Council



### Remit three – Funding of Civics Education

Motion:

That Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) advocate to central government for provision of funding to enable Councils to engage in civics education for high school children.

Moved: P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Seconded: A Tolley, Commissioner, Tauranga City Council

Carried

AGM12/17/07/21

Additional speaker for the motion:

- Mayor Alex Walker, Central Hawke’s Bay District Council
- Mayor Neil Holdom, New Plymouth District Council

### Remit four – Election Participation

Motion:

That the power the Chief Executive has under the Local Government Act (42, 2 (da)) for “facilitating and fostering representative and substantial elector participation in elections and polls held under the Local Electoral Act 2001” be removed and placed with the Electoral Commission.

A motion for the amendment to change the wording of the remit was put to the floor.

Amended motion:

That in addition to the responsibility placed with Chief Executives for “facilitating and fostering representative and substantial elector participation in elections and polls held under the Local Electoral Act 2001” the Electoral Commission also be given legislative responsibility for promoting local elections.

Moved: Local Board member R Northey, Auckland Council

Seconded: Mayor G Smith, Palmerston North City Council

Carried

AGM13/17/07/21

Motion:

That in addition to the responsibility placed with Chief Executives for “facilitating and fostering representative and substantial elector participation in elections and polls held under the Local Electoral Act 2001” the Electoral Commission also be given legislative responsibility for promoting local elections.

Moved: Mayor T Adams, Hauraki District Council

Seconded: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand

Carried

AGM14/17/07/21

### Remit five – Carbon emission inventory standards/reduction targets

Motion:

That LGNZ works with central government in a) developing consistent emission inventory standards for use by local and regional authorities, and b) setting science- based emissions reduction targets to support delivery on our National Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement and on our nationwide emissions budgets being established by government via advice from the Climate Change Commission.

Moved: Mayor G Smith, Palmerston North City Council

Seconded: Mayor A Hawkins, Dunedin City Council

Carried

AGM15/17/07/21

### Remit six – WINZ Accommodation Supplement

Motion:

1. That LGNZ works with the Government to conduct an urgent review of the Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) Accommodation Supplement (AS) system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities.
2. That LGNZ works with the Government to schedule a two yearly review of the WINZ AS system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities ongoing.

A request to split the motion was put to the floor.

Motion:

That LGNZ works with the Government to conduct an urgent review of the Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) Accommodation Supplement (AS) system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities.

Moved: Chief Executive M Theelen, Queenstown Lakes District Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM16/17/07/21

Motion:

That LGNZ works with the Government to schedule a two yearly review of the WINZ AS system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities ongoing.

Moved: Chief Executive M Theelen, Queenstown Lakes District Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM17/17/07/21

Additional speakers for the motion:

- Mayor Hamish McDouall, Whanganui District Council
- Mayor Tim Cadogan, Central Otago District Council

Speaker against the motion:

- Mayor Sandra Goudie, Thames-Coromandel District Council
- Local Board member Richard Northey, Auckland Council

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### Remit seven – Liability – Building Consent Functions

#### Motion

That LGNZ works with Government to obtain legal protection/indemnity from the Crown in favour of all Councils, and/or to implement a warranty scheme, for any civil liability claim brought against a Council with regards to building consent functions carried out by Consentium (a division of Kāinga Ora), as any such costs should not be borne by ratepayers.

Moved: Mayor A Sanson, Waikato District Council  
Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council  
Carried  
AGM18/17/07/21

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### Item twelve – Report from Sector Groups and Zones

That the 2020/21 sector group and zone annual reports be **RECEIVED**.

Moved: S Crosby, President, Local Government New Zealand  
Seconded: Mayor G Webber, Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
Carried  
AGM19/17/07/21

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### Item thirteen - General business

Thames-Coromandel District Council departed the AGM early.

A motion regarding the Three Waters Reforms was put to the floor by Mayor Sheryl Mai, Whangarei District Council. At the discretion of the President, it was decided that the motion be considered at the AGM.

#### Motion:

That Local Government New Zealand:

- Confirms its position opposing the Three Waters Reforms being made mandatory; and
- Confirms its position to support individual Councils the right to opt out of the Three Waters Reforms.

Moved: Mayor S Mai, Whangarei District Council  
Seconded: Mayor D Gordon, Waimakariri District Council  
Carried  
AGM19/17/07/21

A motion to vote on whether or not the membership should accept the motion was put to the floor.

#### Motion:

That LGNZ confirms that they will accept the Three Waters motion.

Moved: Mayor T Cadogan, Central Otago District Council

Seconded: Mayor T Adams, Hauraki District Council

Carried

AGM20/17/07/21

An amendment to the motion was put to the floor.

Amended motion:

That LGNZ:

- Confirms that individual councils should be able to consider the impact of the Three Waters Reform proposals on their local community;
- Does not support the Three Waters Reforms being made mandatory; and
- Acknowledges that individual councils remain able to express their own views on the reforms and make their own decisions.

Moved: Mayor R Reese, Nelson City Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

AGM21/17/07/21

Additional speaker for the amendment:

- Mayor Toby Adams, Hauraki District Council
- Mayor Garry Webber, Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Speaker against the amendment:

- Mayor Alex Beijen, South Wairarapa District Council
- Chair Daran Ponter, Greater Wellington Regional Council

It was requested that the motion be split into three.

Motion:

That LGNZ confirms that individual councils should be able to consider the impact of the Three Waters Reform proposals on their local community.

Moved: Mayor R Reese, Nelson City Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM22/17/07/21

Motion:

That LGNZ does not support the Three Waters Reforms being made mandatory.

Moved: Mayor R Reese, Nelson City Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM23/17/07/21

Motion:

That LGNZ acknowledges that individual councils remain able to express their own views on the reforms and make their own decisions.

Moved: Mayor R Reese, Nelson City Council

Seconded: Mayor P Southgate, Hamilton City Council

Carried

AGM24/17/07/21

The next Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting will be held in Palmerston North on Saturday 23 July 2022.

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The meeting closed at 11.11am.

# 4

## Debating and voting procedures

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### Procedures for debate

The procedures for debate will be as follows:

- i. The proposer of a motion – three minutes;
- ii. The seconder of a motion – two minutes;
- iii. Speakers in reply to a motion – two minutes;
- iv. If there are three speakers for a motion and none against, the motion will be put;
- v. If there are three speakers for and up to three against, the motion will be put;
- vi. Any person proposing an amendment to a motion or proposing a new motion must submit a written copy to the Chief Executive prior to the consideration of such motion or amendment; and
- vii. Any oral amendments proposed during debate will be accepted only at the discretion of the President.

### Voting Entitlements for Member Authorities

At the Annual General Meeting the membership are entitled to vote as follows (Rule H1):

1. Member authorities having an annual subscription of \$100,000 or over – six votes plus one vote for every \$20,000 increment (in whole) in excess of \$100,000;
2. Member authorities having an annual subscription of \$80,000 to \$99,999 – six votes;
3. Member authorities having an annual subscription of \$50,000 to \$79,999 – five votes;
4. Member authorities having an annual subscription of \$30,000 to \$49,999 – three votes;
5. Member authorities having an annual subscription of \$20,000 to \$29,999 – two votes; and
6. Member authorities having an annual subscription of less than \$20,000 – one vote.

Zone One	Vote
Auckland	18
Far North District	5
Kaipara District	3
Northland Regional	3
Whangarei District	5

Zone Two	Vote
Bay of Plenty Regional	5
Gisborne District	5
Hamilton City	6
Hauraki District	3
Kawerau District	2
Matamata-Piako District	3
Ōpōtiki District	3
Ōtorohanga District	3
Rotorua Lakes	5
South Waikato District	3
Taupō District	5
Tauranga City	5
Thames-Coromandel District	5
Waikato District	3
Waikato Regional	5
Waipā District	3
Waitomo District	3
Western Bay of Plenty District	5
Whakatāne District	3

Zone Three	Vote
Central Hawke's Bay District	3
Hastings District	5
Hawke's Bay Regional	3
Horizons Regional	3
Horowhenua District	3
Manawatū District	3
Napier City	5
New Plymouth District	5
Palmerston North City	5
Rangitikei District	3
Ruapehu District	3
South Taranaki District	3
Stratford District	3
Taranaki Regional	3
Tararua District	3
Wairoa District	2
Whanganui District	5

Zone Four	Vote
Carterton District	2
Greater Wellington Regional	7
Hutt City	5
Kāpiti Coast District	3
Masterton District	3
Porirua City	3
South Wairarapa District	3
Upper Hutt City	3
Wellington City	7



Zone Five	Vote
Ashburton District	3
Buller District	3
Chatham Islands	1
Christchurch City	7
Environment Canterbury	5
Grey District	3
Hurunui District	3
Kaikōura District	1
Mackenzie District	1
Marlborough District	5
Nelson City	5
Selwyn District	3
Tasman District	5
Waimakariri District	3
Waimate District	2
West Coast Regional	3
Westland District	3

Zone Six	Vote
Central Otago District	3
Clutha District	3
Dunedin City	6
Environment Southland	3
Gore District	3
Invercargill City	5
Otago Regional	3
Queenstown-Lakes District	5
Southland District	3
Waitaki District	3

**Proxy Votes**

Under Rule G18, at any Annual General Meeting (AGM) votes may be exercised by a member authority by proxy. If your council is not represented at the AGM, and would like to exercise a vote, it must submit a proxy form to Local Government New Zealand at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting (Rule G23).

Proxies must be executed under the common seal of the member authority concerned or by a person having delegated authority from the member authority to sign it (Rule G21).

Proxies require you to appoint one or two individuals, rather than a member authority, to vote on your behalf. Only these persons are permitted to sign voting papers at the AGM.

Proxies cannot be used for the purposes of calculating the quorum at the AGM (Rule G28).

If a proxy form is required please contact Local Government New Zealand – [agm@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:agm@lgnz.co.nz)

# 5

## Progress on 2021 remits

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The following table describes the remits adopted by the 2021 Annual General Meeting and the actions so far undertaken by the LGNZ team (and in some cases councils that proposed or supported the remits) to implement them. In a period of significant reform as well as responding to the ongoing impacts of Covid-19, progress on remits has been variable. This is partly because the nature of remits is that some of them are not quick fixes. Other particular challenges this year have been resource constraints as well as a lack of support/interest from ministers and/or their agencies. Despite this, we will continue to look for opportunities to progress remits in our advocacy work as opportunities present themselves, and monitor progress.

We're actively in the process of developing mechanisms for keeping the membership better informed of the progress we're making on remits, involving the sector in progressing some of them, and the range of options for actioning them.

<b>2021 Remits agreed by AGM</b>			
<b>Remit:</b>	<b>Proposal by:</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<p><b>Tree Protection</b></p> <p>That LGNZ advocate that the provisions that were added to the RMA, that restricted tree protection, be repealed urgently and that this change be carried through into new resource management legislation, thereby restoring the right to councils to adopt and enforce locally appropriate policies to protect trees in their district. That LGNZ advocate to use the current RMA reform process to ensure these changes are carried through into new legislation.</p>	<p>Auckland Council</p>	<p>We sent a letter to the Minister for the Environment in September 2021 strongly advocating for councils to be given more tools and flexibility to protect trees, particularly in urban settings. LGNZ is also supporting work by the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) as part of the resource management reforms to give greater tree protection powers to territorial authorities.</p>	<p>Discussions with MfE via the Local Government Resource Management Reform Steering Group are ongoing and we are supporting greater tree protection powers for territorial authorities.</p> <p>We are yet to receive a reply to our letter.</p>
<p><b>Rating valuation of forestry land</b></p> <p>That LGNZ request the Valuer General amend the relevant legislation to allow for Local Government to address the growing disparities between the rating valuation of forestry land and other land uses.</p>	<p>Gisborne District Council (GDC)</p>	<p>We sent a letter to the Valuer General (VG) in October 2021 setting out the issues raised in the remit and seeking a meeting to discuss an agreed way forward. LGNZ and GDC met with the VG in April 2022.</p>	<p>The VG indicated that they are reviewing the valuation rules regarding carbon forests and will liaise with both LGNZ and GDC as they undertake the review. It was also agreed that some of the issues identified by GDC require changes to the LG (Rating) Act 2002.</p> <p>We will continue to look at these issues through our ongoing work on the Future for Government Review.</p>
<p><b>Funding of civics education</b></p> <p>That Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) advocate to central government for provision of</p>	<p>Hamilton City Council</p>	<p>We sent a letter to the Minister of Education, Hon Chris Hipkins in December 2021 (copying the Minister of Local Government) seeking a</p>	<p>This work is being primarily addressed through our ongoing work on the Future for Local Government Review.</p>

<p>funding to enable Councils to engage in civics education for high school children.</p>		<p>commitment to resourcing local government to deliver civics education initiatives in schools, including relating to the role of local democracy.</p> <p>The need for civics education continues to be raised in our ongoing work on the Future for Local Government Review.</p>	<p>The President has also raised the issue directly with the Associate Minister of Education who indicated that MoE are conducting a curriculum review where the issues of civics in schools of some description will be considered in consultation with LGNZ.</p> <p>We are yet to receive a reply to our letter.</p>
<p><b>Promoting local government electoral participation through the electoral commission</b></p> <p>That the power the Chief Executive has under the Local Government Act (section 42(2) (da)) for "facilitating and fostering representative and substantial elector participation in elections and polls held under the Local Electoral Act 2001" be removed and placed with the Electoral Commission.</p>	<p>Palmerston North City Council</p>	<p>LGNZ recognised this as an issue before the remit was agreed to by members. We sent a letter to the Minister of Local Government in January 2020 requesting that the requirement for CEOs to promote participation in local elections be reviewed with the objective of transferring the responsibility from CEOs to the Electoral Commission.</p>	<p>We are yet to receive a reply to our letter.</p> <p>Select Committee did however make similar recommendations when it considered this issue.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing.</p>
<p><b>Carbon emission inventory standards and reduction targets</b></p> <p>That LGNZ works with central government in a) developing consistent emission inventory standards for use by local and regional authorities, and b) setting science-based emissions reduction targets to support delivery on our National Determined Contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement and on our nationwide emissions budgets being established by government via advice from the Climate Change Commission.</p>	<p>Palmerston North City Council</p>	<p>LGNZ hosted a series of webinars with Tonkin+Taylor, examining how the TCFD could undertake GHG reporting and carbon targeting.</p> <p>We are actively raising this with MfE, including through contributions to the development of the Government's climate change work programme, noting that much of this work will be undertaken through the Government's Emissions Reduction Plan.</p>	<p>This is now being actively considered as a part of our climate change work programme, including through our engagement on the Government's Emissions Reduction Plan.</p>

<p><b>WINZ Accommodation Supplement</b></p> <p>That LGNZ works with the Government to:</p> <p>A. Conduct an urgent review of the Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) Accommodation Supplement (AS) system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities.</p> <p>B. Schedule a two-yearly review of the WINZ AS system zones in partnership with Territorial Authorities ongoing.</p>	<p>Queenstown-Lakes District Council</p>	<p>We sent a letter to the Minister of Social Development, Hon Carmel Sepuloni, in April 2022 informing her of the issue and seeking a review.</p>	<p>We are yet to receive a reply to our letter. This could be due to the Government actively making changes to the supplement, including through Budget 2021 (resulting in increases to the supplement and the rezoning of areas).</p>
<p><b>Liability - Building consent functions</b></p> <p>That LGNZ works with Government to obtain legal protection/ indemnity from the Crown in favour of all Councils, and/or to implement a warranty scheme, for any civil liability claim brought against a Council with regards to building consent functions carried out by Consentium (a division of Kāinga Ora), as any such costs should not be borne by ratepayers.</p>	<p>Waikato District Council</p>	<p>We have considered the issue internally and believe we need to seek legal advice to assess the degree to which this is an actual risk before communicating with the relevant minister.</p>	<p>We are in the process of commissioning legal advice.</p> <p>We are separately raising council liability as a part of our involvement in the Government's review of the Building Consent System.</p>

# 6

## 2022 Remits

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The following section describes the remits to be put forward to the 2022 Annual General Meeting.

Our ability to make progress on remits is frequently dependent on their alignment with two things:

- The Government's priorities - where there is a lack of support from ministers and/or their departments, the ability to progress on some remits is politically constrained, and may only progress when new opportunities present themselves; and
- Our priorities and resources – where there's alignment between our strategic priorities we take every opportunity to progress the remits; where our assessment is that the balance of resources available and likely impact of our remit will not get the desired return, our actions may also be constrained and limited to bringing the issue to the attention of central government and/or if appropriate the media.

# 1

## Central government funding for public transport

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<b>Remit:</b>	That LGNZ: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Calls on central government to fully and permanently fund free public transport for students, community service card holders, under 25s, and total mobility card holders and their support people.</li><li>• Joins the Aotearoa Collective for Public Transport Equity (ACPTE) in support of the Free Fares campaign.</li></ul>
<b>Proposed by:</b>	Porirua City Council
<b>Supported by:</b>	Metro Sector

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

At present, an inequitable, car-dominated transport system constrains mobility and limits opportunity for thousands of people. Transport is the second-largest source (21%) of domestic carbon emissions in Aotearoa – and 70% of these emissions come from cars, SUVs, utes, vans and light trucks.

The Aotearoa Collective for Public Transport Equity (ACPTE) are a vast collection of community organisations from across Aotearoa, joining together to advocate for more equitable public transport. The ACPTE are now asking for councils across the country to join their Free Fares campaign.

ACPTE's Free Fares campaign is asking for central government to fund free fares for public transport users, starting with low income groups and under-25s. The ACPTE believes that these groups are the right place to start because they represent a large portion of public transport users who rely on the service the most but are least likely to be able to afford it.

#### 2. Background to its being raised

Transport is New Zealand's fastest growing source of greenhouse gas emissions, having doubled since 1990. Targeting transport is a key way to mitigate our fastest growing source of emissions. Porirua City Council's view is that we need to provide more sustainable transport options and enable people to transition from private vehicles to public transport.



The proposed remit suggests we can't meet our climate change targets without reducing how much we drive – not even by replacing petrol and diesel cars with EVs. Both in Aotearoa and overseas there are examples of free public transport incentivising mode shift away from private vehicle use. Free fares enable people to switch to public transport, which produces far less emissions per kilometre than private cars.

With housing costs and other expenses rising, many Community Service Card holders, tertiary students, under 25s and total mobility card holders find that a regular \$3 bus ticket is out of reach – and that's at the very time that we need to promote connection to combat loneliness and poor mental health. The high cost of public transport also leaves too many disconnected from family, friends and activities that bring us joy, leading to isolation and loneliness. The proposed remit suggests free fares would allow disadvantaged communities to better access services and seek education and employment.

To ensure transport equity, Porirua City Council suggests it is imperative we prioritise those who struggle the most to afford and access transport. All sectors of society are affected when the cost of fares prevent people from travelling. Businesses miss out on customers, community groups lose participants and volunteers, and tourist spots miss out on visitors. Free fares will allow more people to make these trips, connecting communities so we are all better off.

The ACPTA started in 2021 calling for free public transport for students and community card holders. A coalition of climate action groups, student organisations, churches, unions and political youth wings joined together in asking central government and the Greater Wellington Regional Council to fund a trial for free public transport for these two target groups in the Greater Wellington region.

After submitting to GWRC, the ACPTA decided that leading up to the Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) consultation, the campaign should go national. Over the months leading up to the ERP consultation, the ACPTA connected with groups across Aotearoa to advocate for free fares. The campaign also shifted to include under 25s, with the aim of normalising public transport as the main form of transport for the next generation.

During this time, the ACPTA also reached out to councils inviting them to join in the advocacy effort, and several councils passed motions supporting free fares.

This campaign is specifically requesting that free fares are funded by central government. Signing onto this campaign would have no impact on councils' finances and would add no extra burden on rates.

**3. New or confirming existing policy**

This is new policy.

**4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme**

This remit is broadly consistent with existing LGNZ work, particularly on climate change mitigation and the Future for Local Government Review, but has a more specific focus.

LGNZ is committed to working alongside central government and iwi to address social issues in our communities, including inequity between social groups.

#### **5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome**

The Government began a trial of half-price public transport fares from 1 April 2022. This three-month trial was extended by two months, and made permanent for community services cardholders, as part of the Government's Budget 2022 announcements. (Note that this decision is to provide half-price fares only to community service card holders, and not free fares which this remit and the ACPTÉ are advocating for).

While LGNZ has made statements in press releases about the Government's half-price public transport fares trial and its decisions around continuing this trial as part of Budget 2022 and ERP announcements, no formal work has been undertaken by LGNZ on this issue.

ACPTÉ has undertaken work on this issue, detailed in section 2 above. In addition to the work noted above, ACPTÉ has compiled research from within Aotearoa and abroad about the impact free fares could have for climate and equity and submitted their findings to the ERP consultation, and started a petition which received over 13,000 signatures and was handed to the Minister of Transport in March 2022.

#### **6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

- Central government's public transport half-price fares trial extended for two months (total 5 months), and made permanent for community services cardholders, as part of Budget 2022 announcements
- NZ Transport Agency [Total Mobility scheme: policy guide for local authorities](#) 2017
- Ministry of Transport [SuperGold Card public transport funding](#)
- Aotearoa Collective for Public Transport Equity (ACPTÉ) [Free Fares NZ](#)
- [Government Policy Statement on Land Transport, 2021/22](#) – 30/31 including outcomes addressing "Inclusive Access" and "Resilience and security"
- [The Zero Carbon Act](#) 2019 and [Emissions budgets and the emissions reduction plan](#)

#### **7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

This proposed remit was endorsed by the Metro Sector at its meeting on 13 May 2022.

#### **8. Suggested course of action**

That LGNZ calls on central government to fully and permanently fund free public transport for students, community service card holders, under 25s, and total mobility card holders and their support people.

That LGNZ joins the Aotearoa Collective for Public Transport Equity (ACPTÉ) in support of the Free Fares campaign.

# 2

## Review of Government transport funding

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- Remit:** That LGNZ call for an independent review into the way in which government, through Waka Kotahi, fund transport investments in Aotearoa. This includes funding of new developments and maintenance programmes.
- Proposed by:** New Plymouth District Council
- Supported by:** Rangitikei District Council, Hauraki District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Stratford District Council and Hamilton City Council

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

A key part of the advocacy role of LGNZ includes being involved in discussions with central government on significant issues affecting local government. This is a critical role that is at the core of the work and purpose of LGNZ.

This remit asks that LGNZ work with government to ensure that an independent review into the funding model of Waka Kotahi is undertaken. The current funding model does not fully recognise the costs of maintenance of roads and related infrastructure and does not provide certainty to councils in setting their own budgets. This appears to be related to funding being heavily reliant on the annual budget of the government of the day and income that varies depending on many factors.

Such a review should consider how long-term projects such as roading should not be so reliant on annual fluctuations and more should be funded through long-term debt such as with local government major infrastructure.

#### 2. Background to its being raised

The Government Policy Statement on land transport (GPS) states that “transport investments have long lead times, high costs and leave long legacies. Therefore transport planning and investments need to be guided by a long-term strategic approach, with a clear understanding of the outcomes that government is seeking to achieve”.

Over \$4 billion of New Zealanders’ money is spent through the national land transport fund each year, which is supplemented by co-investment from local government and additional funding and financing.

The GPS recognises that as the largest co-funder of National Land Transport Programme (NLTP) projects, local government has an important role in building strong, evidence-based projects and programmes for investment. This shows the appropriateness of LGNZ requesting a review is undertaken.

The Ministry of Transport and Waka Kotahi already look to other financing tools for larger intergenerational projects over \$100 million. The review should consider if this goes far enough and options for fixing the massive hole in existing budgets – such as the \$400 million one recently highlighted in Auckland for road maintenance and public transport projects.

The review should also consider the consistency of government actions across various infrastructure. The Three Waters Reform programme creates new entities to gain “a greater ability to borrow to fund long-term infrastructure” and aims “to protect consumer interests and drive efficient investment and performance”. Government recognises that Three waters requires long-term investment, but this review is needed to consider that view in relation to transport infrastructure.

### **3. New or confirming existing policy**

Transport is one of LGNZ’s five key policy priorities. However, LGNZ is not currently actively advocating for a review of transport funding. This is therefore a new policy issue.

### **4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme**

Transport is, and always has been, a very critical issue for local government. There is a heavy reliance on uncertain Waka Kotahi funding and the need to advocate for investment in our regions. One of the LGNZ priorities is “Ensuring local voice is heard on the important issues – three waters, resource management, housing, transport, climate change and the future for local government”.

This remit meets the existing aims of LGNZ to represent the national interest of councils in Aotearoa, to ‘decode policy’ and to “help local government run better through development, support and advocacy”. By working with government to ensure an independent review of transport funding is undertaken, LGNZ would help fulfil their Whakamana/Advocate role.

As transport is also one of LGNZ’s five key policy priorities, and the ongoing funding of the local roading network is an issue that has emerged in ongoing conversations with the sector and in Future for Local Government workshops, advocating for an independent review of the funding system may speed up the pace of any review.

### **5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome**

The Ministry of Transport regularly reviews its Government Policy Statement on Transport (typically every three years). This however would not meet the intent of the remit that there be an independent review of the broader system of funding of transport investment.

Based on recent engagement with the Ministry of Transport, LGNZ is aware that the Ministry has begun scoping work on what the future funding tools and requirements of the transport system should be. As such, this remit may provide value in demonstrating to the Government

how important this issue is to local government, and it may also signal some of the issues that should be included in scope of that review (including the benefit of the review being independent). As noted above, the remit may need to be updated depending on whether a Ministry of Transport-led review into how the transport system is funded is announced prior to the AGM. We do not have any indication of when such a review will be announced (if indeed it does proceed).

**6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

The Land Transport Management Act 2003, Government Policy Statement on land transport and the National Land Transport Programme outline Government's position.

**7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

The proposed remit is supported by Rangitikei District Council, Hauraki District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Stratford District Council and Hamilton City Council.

**8. Suggested course of action envisaged**

That LGNZ work with the Government to ensure a review of land transport funding in New Zealand is undertaken. This should include looking at the funding of new transport infrastructure and maintenance and how best to fund these in a realistic, efficient and equitable manner alongside local government.

An independent review may not be possible given decisions around this work programme for the Government may be made (and possibly announced) prior to the AGM in July – though we do not have any indication of when the Government will make announcements about a possible review, or if indeed it will do that. However, support for this remit would provide LGNZ with the ability to demonstrate the importance of such a review to local government, and influence the particular issues that local government thinks should be within the scope of any review – including funding of new developments and maintenance programmes.

# 3

## Illegal street racing

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- Remit:** That Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) implement a nation-wide working group of subject matter experts with the objective of formulating an action plan to effectively enforce the Land Transport Act 1998 and work with police to tackle illegal street racing and the antisocial behaviour associated with it.
- Proposed by:** Hutt City Council
- Supported by:** Upper Hutt City Council, Masterton District Council, Carterton District Council, Tauranga City Council, Hamilton City Council and Porirua City Council

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

Excessive noise from vehicles and other intimidating behaviour (such as convoys blocking the road and vehicles driving at high speeds) has been a frequent complaint from residents towards their local councils. Various attempts to curb this behaviour have had some success, while some measures have simply moved the problematic behaviour to another geographical location.

Councils across the nation have implemented various measures to limit dangerous vehicle use, such as speed cushions, concrete speed bumps, and visual distractions. With the additional cost of maintenance and road signs, these can be a significant cost to councils with only a limited impact on the problem.

Due to the illegal street racers often being in a network, they can communicate to avoid detection by police and move across several councils' territories in one night. This can pose an issue if multiple councils do not have consistent bylaws in their respective areas.

#### 2. Background to its being raised

New Zealand laws deterring illegal street racing (occasionally referred to as 'boy racing') include the Land Transport Act (1998) and the Land Transport (Unauthorised Street & Drag Racing Amendment Act) (2003). Several other councils around New Zealand have chosen to include illegal street racing in their Public Places Bylaw, noting that intimidating behaviour or excessive noise from vehicles is prohibited. New Plymouth District Council and Waipā District Council both have proposed bylaws (not yet in force) specifically about illegal street racing. Christchurch City Council has a "Cruising and Prohibited Times on Roads Bylaw 2014" which is currently under

review. It is unclear how successful these bylaws have been, as there has been no evaluation material available to view.

Based on reports from other locations, the issue of vehicle noise, speed, intimidation, and damage is widespread across the country. Despite laws from central government and supplementary bylaws from local councils, the issue continues to persist. This does not support the argument that these laws have been effective.

Discussions with police and council officers have revealed the challenges of enforcing the law. Under-resourcing has not met the demand, as there are incidents where upwards of 100 illegal street racers converge in a single area with only one patrol car available.

Complaints about illegal street racers have been received by the Hutt City Council Deputy Mayor and council officers in the transport division. Noise is a prominent theme in these complaints when the illegal street racers are in close proximity to residences, along with tyre tread marks and oil on the road. Stolen road signs and other damage to property (both public and private) create further safety issues, along with alcohol use and some assaults to police officers or members of the public when attempting to communicate with the illegal street racers.

**3. New or confirming existing policy**

The issue is not currently covered by existing LGNZ policy.

**4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme**

The issue aligns with LGNZ's Whakahono//Connect leadership pillar given the request from Hutt City Council to bring together the different actors involved with local government (including NZ Police, Waka Kotahi and the Ministry of Social Development) to address illegal street racing.

**5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome**

There does not appear to be any collective effort or plan underway to nationally address street racing. However, it does seem that there are a few localised plans, initiatives (including bylaws, speed cushions etc) or teams being stood up to address this issue (for example, in the Waikato, New Plymouth and Hutt City).

Hutt City Council's view is that these initiatives have had a limited impact on the problem, which is often moved elsewhere rather than stopping gatherings altogether.

**6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

Land Transport Act (1998), and Land Transport (Unauthorised Street and Drag Racing) Amendment Act (2003).

**7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

The proposed remit is supported by Upper Hutt City Council, Masterton District Council, Carterton District Council, Tauranga City Council, Hamilton City Council and Porirua City Council.

**8. Suggested course of action envisaged**

The remit recommends LGNZ establishes a nation-wide working group of subject matter experts to develop a plan of action to address the issue and enforcement of the law. It suggests it will be useful to have input from police, community patrol officers, policy makers, and transport analysts in formulating the group.



# 4

## Bylaw infringements

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<b>Remit:</b>	That LGNZ lobby Government to implement an infringement notice regime for general bylaws.
<b>Proposed by:</b>	Auckland Council
<b>Supported by:</b>	Auckland Zone

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

Section 259 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) provides for the making of regulations and amongst other matters, prescribing breaches of bylaws that are infringement offences under the Act. The power has been seldom used to date.

Between working with and “educating” people and taking a prosecution, there are no enforcement options available making it extremely difficult to achieve compliance especially in an environment of increasing disrespect for authority and aggression.

Working with people or educating them can be time consuming but is effective especially where the breaches are unintentional. However, in relation to intentional breaches of bylaws, in the absence of an infringement regime, after working with and educating people the next step is prosecution. Prosecution is expensive and time consuming. Also, it is often out of proportion with the breach that has occurred. Even following a successful prosecution, the penalties available to courts are low and provide minimal deterrence.

The obstacle in passing regulations allowing for infringement fee regulations has been the need to tailor those regulations to each instance of an infringement offence bylaw by bylaw. Therefore, a two-step approach is required: firstly, amending the legislation to enable regulations to be made nationwide across different bylaw types and then relevant regulations being passed.

By developing a more comprehensive infringement regime, councils in New Zealand will be better able to take proportionate and timely steps to help ensure compliance with their bylaws. In doing this, confidence of communities in the work of local government will be enhanced.

## 2. Background to its being raised

Discussion around the need for an infringement regime for local government bylaws is not new.

Provision for the making of regulations was included in section 259 of the LGA. Part 9, Subpart 3 “Infringement Offences” of the LGA provides a mechanism for imposing and collecting infringement fees. Apart from regulations establishing infringement fees for some navigational bylaws, the provisions have not been used.

This issue was well-canvassed in the Productivity Commission’s 2013 Report, *“Towards better Local Government Regulation.”* The Productivity Commission’s report includes the following comment:

*“Much of a local authority’s regulatory functions are authorised by its bylaws. The Act under which bylaws are made may authorise the local authority to enforce certain provisions in bylaws by the use of infringement offence notices. If not, bylaws must be enforced under the Summary Proceedings Act 1957...I submit that the enforcement of local authorities’ regulatory functions would be significantly more effective and efficient if the use of infringement offence provisions is more widely available than at present.”* (Richard Fisk, sub.19, p.1).

In the Auckland Region, the challenges in enforcing bylaws were brought into stark relief over summer 2021/2022 with an increased number of complaints about people camping on beaches and in reserves (not freedom camping) and an expectation from members of the public and elected members that steps would be taken to enforce the bylaws.

With the changing attitudes and behaviours of our communities arising in part through people’s experience of the Covid-19 response, Auckland Council’s position is that now is the right time to revisit the development of a more comprehensive infringement regime for local government.

## 3. New or confirming existing policy

This remit would confirm and enhance existing policy work that LGNZ has underway.

## 4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme

This remit connects indirectly to LGNZ’s strategy and Work Programme to the extent that the lack of being able to enforce local bylaws frustrates local citizens and undermines public perceptions of local government’s effectiveness.

## 5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome

As noted above, the Productivity Commission considered bylaws and an infringement notice regime in its 2013 Report, *“Towards better Local Government Regulation.”* Findings and recommendations set out in that report have not been acted on to date, but remain relevant, specifically:

- F4.8 – There are indications of a low level of prioritisation of monitoring and enforcement resources based on risks. Constraints on the use of infringement notices – combined with the low level of fines where infringement notices can be used – can also inhibit councils’ capacity to encourage compliance with regulation.

- R10.3 – Agencies responsible for regulations that local government enforces should work with Local Government New Zealand to identify regulations that could usefully be supported by infringement notices and penalty levels that need to be increased.
- R10.4 – Section 259 of the Local Government 2002 – relating to the empowerment of infringement notices – should be amended to enable regulations to be made for infringement notices for similar kinds of bylaws across local authorities, rather than on a council-specific and bylaw-specific basis.

LGNZ has highlighted this issue in a number of briefing papers and advice to various ministers and central government officials since the early 2000s. Although the issue has been of concern to LGNZ and councils for nearly 20 years, it has never been the subject of an AGM remit.

Parliament’s Regulations Review Committee wrote to LGNZ in late 2021 advising that it was considering a review of the bylaw provisions of the LGA. LGNZ was invited to provide advice on the effectiveness of local authority bylaws and the enforcement of them. LGNZ recently appeared before the Committee to speak to its submission.

We are still awaiting a decision from the Committee on whether or not it will undertake a review of the bylaw provisions of the LGA, and if so, what the scope of that review will be. Although the Committee did ask for specific advice on the infringement regime, it also sought advice on other matters including the use of model bylaws and the expansion of the model bylaws used in the Freedom Camping Act 2011.

#### **6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

- Local Government Act 2002
- Productivity Commission’s 2013 Report, *“Towards better Local Government Regulation.”*

#### **7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

This proposed remit was supported by the Auckland Zone.

#### **8. Suggested course of action envisaged**

Auckland Council has not provided any detail as to how it suggests LGNZ progresses the proposed remit.

While the inquiry that the Regulations Review Committee has underway (and in which LGNZ has been engaged) is a significant step forward, there is no guarantee that the Committee will agree with LGNZ’s submission, or, should the Committee agree, that work to review the bylaw provisions of the LGA would be supported by either this Government or a future one.

To gain traction, and to ensure that any review of the bylaw provisions addresses the issues that local government is most concerned with, this remit (along with the national publicity that tends to accompany successful remits) might be very helpful at this time.

# 5

## Density and proximity of vaping retailers

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- Remit:** That LGNZ requests the Government to:
- Restrict the sale of vaping products to R18 specialist vape stores.
  - Develop proximity limits to prevent the clustering of vaping product retailers and protect young people.
- Proposed by:** Kaipara District Council
- Supported by:** Zone 1

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

Vaping products are widely available from generic retailers (e.g., dairies, service stations) and specialist vape retailers. To date, New Zealand has 713 specialist vape stores; a British American vape brand is available from 2000 retail outlets throughout Aotearoa. Vaping products are also available via several online stores (both NZ-based and international).

Dargaville's main street, Victoria Street, has 13 vape retailers: ten General Vape Retailers and three Specialist Vape Retailers, all within a 1km length. The three licensed Specialist Vape Retailers are located within 150m of each other.

Youth vaping has risen sharply over recent years; among 14 to 15 year olds, daily vaping rose from 1.8% in 2018 to 9.6% in 2021; among 14-15 year old Rangatahi Māori, daily vaping rose from 5.9% in 2019 to 19.1% in 2021. Widespread product availability normalises vaping and makes experimentation easier.

Many towns and regions around New Zealand also need to address the proliferation of vaping outlets and rising vaping among Rangatahi.

#### 2. Background to its being raised

The widespread sale of vaping occurred in 2018, when the Ministry of Health lost a case taken against Philip Morris alleging their "HEETS" products breached the Smokefree Environments Act 1990. Until the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Act was passed in 2020, vaping products were largely unregulated and vaping manufacturers

advertised their brands using youth-oriented promotions. Even post-legislation, retailers with little or no knowledge of vaping remain able to sell vaping products.

Surveys of young people, such as the Youth19 survey and the Snapshot Year 10 survey conducted by ASH revealed many adolescents who had never smoked had begun vaping. A 2021 report into youth vaping found that 14.6% of those surveyed reported smoking one or more traditional cigarettes in the last 7 days and 26.6% reported that they had vaped (e-cigarettes) in the past 7 days. Almost all those (98%) who had smoked a traditional cigarette in the last week had also vaped in the last week. However, a significant portion (46.2%) of those who had vaped in the last week had not smoked a cigarette. These data provide important evidence that youth vaping is rising rapidly and reveal that many young people who vape have never smoked.

The Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products Amendment Act 2020 extended many of the existing restrictions governing smoked tobacco products to vaping products. This legislation allows any business to sell vaping products as long as they follow the regulations for General Vape Retailers or apply to become a Specialist Vape Retailers. However, the Vaping Regulatory Authority does not consider retailer density or proximity to facilities such as schools when assessing applications.

The Government's Smokefree 2025 Action Plan will introduce a provision requiring general retailers selling vaping products to advise the Director-General of Health that they are doing so. This provision aims to provide information on the number and type of retailers selling vaping products.

We recognise that people who smoke and who have not been able to quit using existing treatments will benefit if they make a complete transition to vaping products and stop smoking. However, survey data showing rising vaping prevalence among young people suggests existing policy does not provide an appropriate balance between the needs of people who smoke and the rights of young people who do not, and who deserve protection from products that are designed to target them.

Limiting the retail availability of vaping products to specialist stores will not prevent people who smoke from accessing these products and instead will increase the likelihood they receive smoking to vaping transition advice that improves the chances they will stop smoking. Furthermore, people who smoke will continue to be able to access vapes through stop smoking services.

Kaipara District Council elected members have been receiving questions and concerns from the local community about the density and proximity of vape retailers in Dargaville.

While we support the supply of vapes to people wanting to use these products to stop smoking, it is of the utmost importance that we also protect our community, particularly our Rangatahi and other whānau who would not usually vape, from using these addictive products.

**3. New or confirming existing policy**

This is a new policy.

**4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme**

This remit aligns with LGNZ's pillar Whakauru // Include – to ensure that every New Zealander can participate, thrive and be represented by local government.

It could be argued that restricting the density and proximity of vaping retailers shows some alignment with enhancing community safety, public health and promoting social wellbeing. However, the remit does not show strong alignment with LGNZ's existing policy priorities or engagement in major ongoing local government reform programmes. Further discussion is needed to determine whether LGNZ's membership agree it is relevant to local government as a whole.

**5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome**

A petition was received by Kaipara District Council regarding the density and proximity of vape retailers. The petition was accepted and responded to. Given this issue sits outside Kaipara District Council's control and existing policy frameworks, a remit was recommended as the appropriate action to take. Councillor Karen Joyce-Paki is the sponsor of the remit and is working closely with Smokefree NZ, Cancer Society and local Māori Health Provider, Te Ha Oranga.

The Smokefree Coordinator for Northland, Bridgette Rowse, has been providing support and is working with the Far North District Council (FNDC) policy team to review the FNDC Smokefree Policy, which currently covers smokefree parks, playgrounds and sports grounds. She has also worked with Whāngarei District Council and Kaipara District Council to review and align our smokefree policies to create more smokefree outdoor public spaces as well as making all smokefree outdoor public spaces vape-free.

**6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

The relevant legislation is the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Vaping) Amendment Act 2020. The Act aims to balance between ensuring vaping products are available to smokers who want to switch to a less harmful alternative, while ensuring these products aren't marketed or sold to young people. New regulations are in the process of being implemented from November 2020 until January 2023. While these regulations cover factors such as how vape retailers can advertise, who they can sell their products to and where vaping is allowed, there are no regulations around proximity limits to prevent the clustering of vaping product retailers as the remit requests.

**7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

The remit was supported at the most recent Zone 1 meeting by all members present.

## **8. Suggested course of action envisaged**

This remit suggests that LGNZ requests the Government to:

- Restrict the sale of vaping products to R18 specialist vape stores.
- Develop proximity limits to prevent the clustering of vaping product retailers and protect young people.

We understand that an Amendment Bill is expected to be introduced in 2022 (according to the Government's Smokefree Action Plan). Kaipara District Council has suggested that one way to progress this remit would be to advocate for the Amendment Bill provision which only allows authorised retailers to sell smoked tobacco products to be extended to restrict the number who can sell vape products.

Progressing this remit is likely to require LGNZ working with officials from the Ministry of Health to advocate for changes to regulations and the upcoming Amendment Bill.

# 6

## Polling LGNZ members

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- Remit:** That LGNZ adopt a policy to poll the LGNZ membership on any significant issue affecting local government in Aotearoa, prior to making that decision. LGNZ should develop a policy in conjunction with the membership that sets out the threshold for polling the membership. In the interim, the decision about the threshold for polling rests with National Council.
- Proposed by:** New Plymouth District Council
- Supported by:** Taupō District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Thames-Coromandel District Council, Stratford District Council, Taranaki Regional Council, Central Otago District Council.

### Background information and research

#### 1. Nature of the issue

A key part of the advocacy role of LGNZ includes being involved in discussions with central government on significant issues affecting local government. This is a critical role that is at the core of the work and purpose of LGNZ.

New Plymouth District Council's (NPDC) view is that when the issue of the day is divisive, very significant or controversial, it is difficult for one organisation to fully gauge and express the views of its members. This remit asks for LGNZ to develop a policy that sets out when LGNZ will poll its membership, on significant issues, including when entering into formal agreements with the Crown on significant or controversial issues. The policy will outline those issues on which LGNZ may poll its membership, which may include responsibilities being given or taken away from local authorities and/or significant legislative changes. They will generally be of widespread public and media interest and will have strongly varied views across the country. NPDC's view is that polls should not limit the ability of LGNZ to achieve their objectives relating to working with central government and advocating for local government. In the interim, while that policy is being developed, the decision about the level of significance sits with National Council.

NPDC's view is that the proposed remit is greatly supported by the existing LGNZ constitution and strategy and could be met by developing a policy clearly outlining the issues on which the membership will be polled, prior to decisions being made.



The proposed remit recognises that councils will regularly have varied opinions on issues and that opportunities exist for councils to present their own opinions alongside LGNZ on any topic.

## **2. Background to its being raised**

Local government is made up of many different councils with often very different opinions on various issues that arise. There have been many examples where not all agree relating to bills before parliament, government discussion papers and others such as the Resource Management (Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Bill and the Shop Trading Hours' Amendment Bill.

In July 2021, the President and Vice-President of LGNZ signed a formal heads of agreement with central government for "Partnering commitment to support three waters service delivery reform", and have also released a joint position statement on three waters reform. NPDC's position is that this document clearly shows LGNZ's support for the reform and a commitment to work with the Government to support "a smooth transition and successful implementation of the Three Waters Reform Programme".

However, according to media, the reform has a "massive majority of the 67 mayors pushing back against this plan" and that "the vast majority of councils are fuming". NPDC's position is that entering into such agreements with central government without the support of members, appears to be contrary to the "objects of LGNZ" in its constitution (summarised here):

- to promote the national interests of local government through the promotion of LGNZ's vision;
- to advocate on matters affecting the national interests of local government and the communities that it represents;
- to promote and facilitate regular dialogue with Government on matters of national interest to local government with a view to enhancing and ensuring a long-term commitment to partnership between central and local government in New Zealand;
- to provide full, accurate and timely information to members on matters affecting local government and LGNZ; and
- to research, survey, and investigate those matters in which LGNZ has an interest or a responsibility on behalf of its members

NPDC's position is that developing a policy that clearly sets out when LGNZ will poll its members on different issues would strongly contribute to LGNZ's advocacy, promotion and partnership roles and the need to "research, survey and investigate those matters". It would also greatly contribute to the LGNZ Strategy which states that LGNZ will:

- Ensure that local democracy – and local voice – is at the front and centre of our work.
- Leverage the shared interests of Aotearoa and translate local democracy's contribution to communities in a meaningful and powerful way through the different strata of New Zealand society and leadership.
- Advocate for councils and be a champion for their communities' needs.

- Empower councils across New Zealand who know their communities best to support them to thrive – culturally, economically, socially and environmentally.
- Support and advocate for councils, ensuring the needs and priorities of their communities and residents are heard loud and clear at the highest levels of central government.
- Focus on being future-fit, proactive and inclusive in all that we do – from policy development and advocacy, to supporting capability building through advice.

### **3. New or confirming existing policy**

The remit proposes a new approach to the way in which LGNZ engages with its membership.

NPDC has stated that this remit would greatly contribute to the achievement of existing strategy and result in a new policy outlining the process LGNZ will follow when determining how to act regarding a significant or divisive issue and an amendment to the constitution.

Its view is that any such policy should consider how such a process will still enable LGNZ to fulfil its purpose and objectives while ensuring an empowered and engaged membership. The purpose of any policy is not to stop LGNZ from entering into a partnership with central government to discuss key issues. The intent is to provide LGNZ an opportunity to fully consider the views of its members before formally entering into agreements with central government (or making any other significant decisions set out in the policy that will be developed).

### **4. How the issue relates to objectives in the current Work Programme**

The proposed remit suggests that enactment of this remit would allow the National Council to be assured of its mandate before entering into agreements with central government and will assure members as to their views being both canvassed and heard.

### **5. What work or action on the issue has been done on it, and the outcome**

LGNZ engages in a wide range of ways with its membership, on a wide range of issues. However, polling is not an engagement approach that LGNZ is using currently.

### **6. Any existing relevant legislation, policy or practice**

NPDC's position is that the LGNZ Constitution and strategy include excellent objectives that support the need for this remit and to develop a policy that sets out when LGNZ will poll members in the future where appropriate. It considers the LGNZ "Designing decision-making structures: A guide for councils" also support this and begins with the following:

*Decision-making structures matter. The ability of a local authority to meet the needs of its community and achieve the objectives set by its governing body is strongly influenced by the nature of its governance system which has a direct effect on elected members' workload, the opportunities for citizens to engage and participate, responsiveness to local concerns and the quality of governance oversight and strategic thinking. A poorly designed system will frustrate elected members, alienate citizens and diminish oversight and scrutiny.*

This remit requests that LGNZ follow their own advice and consider how to best provide opportunities for its members to engage and participate and to then be responsive to their concerns. The policy may address matters such as voting rules, and set out a process for National Council to determine which issues may be polled on.

**7. Outcome of any prior discussion at a Zone or Sector meeting**

This proposed remit was endorsed by Taupō District Council, South Taranaki District Council, Thames-Coromandel District Council, Stratford District Council, Taranaki Regional Council , Central Otago District Council.

**8. Suggested course of action**

NPDC's suggested course of action is that LGNZ make a commitment to engage fully with their members on issues of significance that may be divisive or controversial and may result in a formal delegation and/or agreement with central government. It is recommended that this is through a poll process, outlined in a policy, and in-line with the current constitution and voting rules. This should not limit the ability of LGNZ to do their role and achieve their objectives.

While the policy for polling the LGNZ membership is developed, the decision about the level of significance should rest with National Council.

# 7

## Reports from Sector Groups and Zones

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## Metro Sector Annual Report – 2021/2022

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**Chairperson:** Mayor Jim Boulton, Queenstown Lakes District Council  
**Secretary:** Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy, LGNZ  
**National Council representatives:** Andy Foster, Mayor, Wellington City Council; Hon Phil Goff, Mayor, Auckland Council; Aaron Hawkins, Mayor, Dunedin City Council; and Grant Smith, Mayor, Palmerston North City Council

**Member authorities:**

Auckland Council	Porirua City Council
Christchurch City Council	Queenstown-Lakes District Council
Dunedin City Council	Tauranga City Council
Hamilton City Council	Upper Hutt City Council
Hutt City Council	Wellington City Council
Palmerston North City Council	Whangarei District Council

### 1. Introductory comment

During the past 12 months, the Metro Sector has held 4 meetings, hosted by LGNZ in Wellington and online.

### 2. Meetings

**Date:** 13 August 2021  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ  
**Chair:** Mayor Jim Boulton  
**No. in Attendance:** 29 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Minister of Immigration on issues impacting the Metro Sector – Hon Kris Faafoi
- Resource Management Reform – Janine Smith – Natural and Built System and Climate Mitigation
- Three waters – Transition – Amelia East, DIA

**Date:** 5 November 2021  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ  
**Chair:** Mayor Jim Boulton  
**No. in Attendance:** 29 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Resource Management Reform – Hon David Parker

- LGNZ Update – Susan Freeman-Greene, LGNZ
- Building systems reform – Joint and Several Liability – Amy Moorhead, MBIE

**Date:** 11 February 2022

**Hosted by:** LGNZ (Zoom)

**Chair:** Mayor Jim Boulton

**No. in Attendance:** 14 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Resource Management Reform - Environment Committee recommendations on Natural and Built Environments Act exposure draft – Grace Hall, LGNZ
- Current state of tourism, hospitality and accommodation and events sectors – Mayor Jim Boulton, QLDC

**Date:** 13 May 2022

**Hosted by:** LGNZ

**Chair:** Mayor Jim Boulton

**No. in Attendance:** 32 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Discussion on the New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy – Ross Copland NZIC
- Emissions reduction plan and national adaptation plan – Hon James Shaw
- Discussion with representatives from tourism, hospitality, arts and events industry bodies on impacts of Covid-19 – Julie White (Hospitality NZ), Marisa Bidois (Restaurant Assoc NZ), Steve Hanrahan (TNZ)

### 3. Conclusion

In another challenging year, Metro Councils have remained actively involved in a wide range of LGNZ related matters. In addition to the subjects noted above, Metro has engaged closely with the perplexing issue of Three Waters. Councils including Metro have, in my view, been put unfairly in the firing line on this matter, and this has often distracted us from other equally pressing issues. I'm sure all Metro Mayors look forward to addressing more positive matters in the future.

I wish to thank my fellow Metro Mayors and their CE's for their valuable and thoughtful input during the year.



**Mayor Jim Boulton**  
**Chair, Metro Sector**

## Regional Sector Annual Report – 2021/2022

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<b>Chairperson:</b>	Chair Doug Leeder, Bay of Plenty Regional Council	
<b>Secretary:</b>	Grace Hall, Director Advocacy and Policy, LGNZ	
<b>National Council representatives:</b>	Doug Leeder, Chair, Bay of Plenty Regional Council; Rachel Reese, Mayor, Nelson City Council; and Hon Phil Goff, Mayor, Auckland Council	
<b>Member authorities:</b>		
Auckland Council (Unitary)	Marlborough District Council (Unitary)	
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Nelson City Council (Unitary)	
Environment Canterbury	Northland Regional Council	
Environment Southland	Otago Regional Council	
Gisborne District Council (Unitary)	Taranaki Regional Council	
Greater Wellington Regional Council	Tasman District Council (Unitary)	
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Waikato Regional Council	
Horizons Regional Council	West Coast Regional Council	

### 1. Introductory Comment

During the past 12 months, the Regional Sector has held two meetings, hosted by LGNZ at Greater Wellington Regional Council and online.

### 2. Meetings

<b>Date:</b>	Friday 25th February 2022
<b>Hosted by:</b>	LGNZ- Zoom
<b>Chair:</b>	Doug Leeder
<b>No. in Attendance:</b>	39 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Welcome, apologies and confirmation of minutes- Doug Leeder, Chair, Regional Sector
- Three Waters- Regional Sector Position- Doug Leeder, Chair, Regional Sector
- LGNZ update, Reform programmes, Omicron- Susan Freeman-Green, Chief Executive & Stuart Crosby, President
- RM Reform discussion- Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy and Local Government RM Reform Steering Group members
- Te Uru Kahika update- Christine Morrison, Te Uru Kahika communications special interest group, Horizons Regional Council and Nicole Taber, Te Uru Kahika
- Three waters- Jason Krupp, Three waters transition unit
- Future for Local Government- Elizabeth Hugh's, Strategy and communication specialist

- Te Mana o Te Wai- Implementation and principles- Eugene Berryman-Kamp, Ringatohu/Director- Partnerships, Ministry of environment
- General discussion/meeting close- Doug Leeder, Chair, Regional Sector

**Date:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

**Hosted by:** LGNZ at Greater Wellington Regional Council

**Chair:** Doug Leeder

**No. in Attendance:** 37 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Welcome, apologies and confirmation of minutes- Doug Leeder, Chair, Regional Sector
- Discussion on Central Government co-investment in flood protection- Paul Barker, partnerships Director, DIA
- LGNZ update, Stuart Crosby, President and Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy
- Update on Resource Management and Reform- Members of the resource management reform steering group
- Discussion on RM reform- Joint committees- Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy
- Three waters Reform discussion- Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Local Government
- National party priorities for Local Government- Simon Watts, National Party Spokesperson
- Te Uru Kahika update- Michael McCartney, Chief Executive, Horizons Regional Council and Liz Lambert, Executive Policy Advisor to the Regionals CEO's Te Uru Kahika
- General business \* Meeting close- Doug Leeder, Chair, Regional Sector

### 3. Conclusion

The past year has been challenging both at the Governance and Executive level. The sheer volume and pace of responding to the reform programme has meant that business as usual has had to be blended with meeting the demands of responding to multiple requests from Government agencies on the implementation.

My acknowledgement to Chairs, Mayors, CEOs and to members of the Special Interest Groups who have shouldered the burden in delivering on these demands and maintaining the reputation of the Sector as a partner in co designing many of the outputs.



Of note is the interaction that we have been able to have with key Ministers on the challenges we collectively face and their willingness to listen and engage on the way forward. I do not see the pressure abating in the short term but let's strive for a realistic and pragmatic approach on the implementation of these reforms as it is our communities who have a high expectation of us to understand both the strategic and consequential impact on them and our environment.



**Douglas Leeder**  
**Chair, Regional Sector**

## Rural and Provincial Sector Annual Report – 2021/2022

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**Co-chairs:** Gary Kircher, Provincial Chair, Mayor, Waitaki District Council  
Alex Walker, Rural Chair, Mayor, Central Hawke's Bay District Council

**Secretary:** Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy, LGNZ

**National Council representatives:** Hamish McDouall, Mayor, Whanganui District Council  
Alex Walker, Mayor, Central Hawke's Bay District Council

**Member authorities:**

**Provincial Group**

Ashburton District Council  
Central Otago District Council  
Far North District Council  
Gisborne District Council  
Hastings District Council  
Horowhenua District Council  
Invercargill City Council  
Kaipara District Council  
Kāpiti Coast District Council  
Manawatū District Council  
Marlborough District Council  
Masterton District Council  
Matamata-Piako District Council  
Napier City Council  
Nelson City Council  
New Plymouth District Council  
Rotorua Lakes Council  
Selwyn District Council  
South Taranaki District Council  
South Waikato District Council  
Southland District Council  
Tasman District Council  
Taupō District Council  
Thames-Coromandel District Council  
Waikato District Council  
Waimakariri District Council  
Waipa District Council  
Waitaki District Council  
Whanganui District Council  
Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
Whakatāne District Council

**Rural Group**

Buller District Council  
Carterton District Council  
Central Hawke's Bay District Council  
Chatham Islands Council  
Clutha District Council  
Gore District Council  
Grey District Council  
Hauraki District Council  
Hurunui District Council  
Kaikōura District Council  
Kawerau District Council  
Mackenzie District Council  
Ōpōtiki District Council  
Ōtorohanga District Council  
Rangitīkei District Council  
Ruapehu District Council  
South Wairarapa District Council  
Stratford District Council  
Taranua District Council  
Waimate District Council  
Wairoa District Council  
Waitomo District Council  
Westland District Council

## 1. Introductory comment

During the past 12 months, Rural and Provincial Sector has held three meetings, hosted by LGNZ at Te Papa and online.

## 2. Meetings

**Date:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ Zoom  
**Chair:** Gary Kircher, Provincial Chair, Mayor for Waitaki and Alex Walker, Rural Chair, Mayor for Central Hawke's Bay

**No. in Attendance:** 117 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Welcome and opening comments- Alex Walker, Rural Sector and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector
- 3W Working group- an R&P perspective- Garry Webber, Mayor, Western Bay of Plenty, Tim Cadogan, Mayor, Central Otago, Lyn Patterson, Mayor, Masterton, Neil Holdom, Mayor, New Plymouth, Jason Smith, Mayor, Kaipara
- LGNZ update, Stuart Crosby, President, LGNZ
- Resource Management Reform with an R&P lens, Mayor Toby Adams, Co-Chair, Local Government RM Reform Steering Group
- Taumata Arowai, Rural, Small and private supplies and acceptable solutions and executive and Governance accountability- Ray McMillan, Head of Regulatory Taumata Arowai
- Carbon forestry announcement update- Tracey Collis, Mayor Tararua, Don Cameron, Mayor Ruapehu, Hon Stuart Nash, Minister of Forestry
- Future for Local Government- Sam Broughton, Mayor of Selwyn & Critical friend of the FfLG panel and Grace Hall, Director of Policy and Advocacy
- Meeting Close/general business- Alex Walker, Rural Sector and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector

**Date:** Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ Zoom  
**Co-chairs:** Gary Kircher, Provincial Chair, Mayor for Waitaki and Alex Walker, Rural Chair, Mayor for Central Hawke's Bay

**No. in Attendance:** 118 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Welcome and members only time- Alex Walker, Chair, Rural Sector; and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector
- LGNZ update- Susan Freeman-Greene, Chief Executive, LGNZ
- Three waters reform: Panel discussion about being on the 3W WG, their thoughts and feedback and discussion time- R&P members of the Three Waters Working Group: Tim Cadogan, Mayor, Central Otago District; Neil Holdom, Mayor, New Plymouth District; Lyn Patterson, Mayor, Masterton District; Jason Smith, Mayor, Kaipara District; and Garry Webber, Mayor, Western Bay of Plenty District
- Resource Management system Reform- Q&A- Hon David Parker, Minister for the environment
- Discussion time- Toby Adams, Co-Chair, Resource Management Steering Group; and LGNZ
- Future for Local Government Reform- Update on their timeframes and plans for the local government roadshow, as well as have time for Q&A- The review Panel members: Jim Palmer (Chair); Penny Hulse; Antoine Coffin; Gael Surgenor; and Brendan Boyle
- General business, feedback from members and close of meeting- Alex Walker, Chair, Rural Sector; and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector

**Date:** Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June & Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Hosted by:** LGNZ at TE PAPA

**Chair:** Gary Kircher, Provincial Chair, Mayor for Waitaki and Alex Walker, Rural Chair, Mayor for Central Hawke's Bay

**No. in Attendance:** 120 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> June**

- Welcome, apologies, update from the chairs- Alex Walker, Chair, Rural Sector and Gary Kircher, Chair Provincial Sector
- LGNZ update- Stuart Crosby, President & Susan Freeman-Greene, CEO
- Working together in partnership- Mana Whakahono Partnership between Taupō District Council and Ngati Tarangitukua- Gareth Green, Chief Executive, Taupō District Council & Tina Porou, Kaupapa Maori Environmental Consultant
- New Zealand Infrastructure Strategy and what it means for Local Government- Ross Copland, Chief Executive, New Zealand Infrastructure Commission Te Waihanga
- Guts and Glory- Localism in practise- Alison Dalziel, Director, Localise
- Local Government Reform- Hon Nanaia Mahuta, Minister of Local Government
- General business & meeting close- Alex Walker, Chair of Rural sector and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector

### Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June

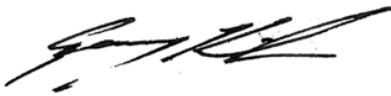
- Welcome, recap of previous day- Alex Walker, Chair, Rural Sector and Gary Kircher, Chair Provincial Sector
- Vote 2022 campaign and induction update- Bridgit Sissons, Deputy Chief Executive, LGNZ
- Mayor's taskforce for jobs update- Emma Anderson, MTFJ Programme Manager, LGNZ
- Forestry, Community Wellbeing and a Rates Review - In court- Matthew Lawson, Director, Lawson Robinson
- Update on RM Reform- Toby Adams, Mayor, Hauraki, & Grace Hall, Director Policy and Advocacy, LGNZ
- National party priorities for Local Government- Simon Watts, National Party spokesperson for Local Government
- Resource Management Reform discussion- Hon David Parker, Minister for the Environment
- General business & meeting close- Alex Walker, Chair of Rural sector and Gary Kircher, Chair, Provincial Sector

### 3. Conclusion

As a sector of Local Government that is so widely spread across the country, we have certainly felt the effects of our geographic isolation due to COVID restrictions over the last 12 months – only managing one meeting in person! And while that has presented us challenges as a group, it has not got in the way of the magic of community outcomes that come from the most responsive part of Local Government – and that is our Rural and Provincial councils. Across all wellbeing areas – economic, social, environmental and cultural – there are shining examples of the mahi coming out of R&P councils all around the country. This puts us in good stead for an exciting future for Local Government.

Our members have also been active participants, and leaders, in many national workstreams across the huge reform platform that is bearing down on us from central government, and we have seen strong and constructive recommendations taken on board from that work. It is a credit to the professionalism of our members, and to the hard work of our LGNZ team to be liaising and influencing across such a wide array of policy platforms – Three Waters, Resource Management, Health Reform, Future for Local Government, Waste Management and Civil Defence & Emergency Management.

As a sector, we have successfully advocated for a place for R&P councils in the IAF for housing, to delay the reform proposals from NEMA, to ensure all councils (no matter how small) have shares and say in governance of Three Waters entities, for Rural Drinking Water supplies to be handled in a pragmatic and democratic way, for local community outcomes to be part of the inputs to regional plans in RM reform, and, for the timelines of the Future for Local Government review to be slowed to ensure new councils post-election will be adequately engaged. And we have been the strongest voices in the support of the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs mahi and advocacy. There is no doubt that we are strongest together.



**Gary Kircher**  
Chair, Provincial Sector



**Alex Walker**  
Chair, Rural Sector

## Auckland Zone Annual Report – 2021/2022

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<b>Chairpersons:</b>	Councillor Pippa Coom and Local Board Chair Richard Northey
<b>Secretary:</b>	Angela Zafar, Auckland Council
<b>National Council representatives:</b>	Mayor Phil Goff, Alternate Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore, Councillor Pippa Coom and Local Board Chair Richard Northey

### Participants in Other LGNZ Organisations and Committees

Mayor Phil Goff	Metro Sector (Alternate Cr Pippa Coom)
Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore	Regional Sector
Councillor Alf Filipaina	Metro Sector Representative on Te Maruata Roopu Whakahaere
Local Board member Nerissa Henry	Young Elected Members Committee
Councillor Angela Dalton	Governance and Strategy Advisory Group
Local Board member Danielle Grant	Governance and Strategy Advisory Group
Governance Director Phil Wilson	Governance and Strategy Advisory Group
Councillor Richard Hills	Policy Advisory Group
Local Board member Cindy Schmidt	Policy Advisory Group
General Manager Community & Social Policy Kataraina Maki	Policy Advisory Group

### 1. Introductory comment

The Auckland Zone meetings this year were held firstly as hybrid meetings with key personnel in the Council Chamber and others skyping in. The last three meetings were held entirely on Microsoft teams. We held Forums on the Resource Management reforms, on the Future of local Government and on Climate Change and held a special meeting on remits. We were very pleased our remit on reinstating the ability of Councils to adopt and implement locally appropriate policies to protect notable urban trees was adopted at the AGM.

### 2. Zone Meetings

<b>Date:</b>	9 July 2021
<b>Hosted by:</b>	Auckland Council
<b>Chair:</b>	Chair Richard Northey and Cr Pippa Coom

**No. in Attendance:** 25 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ Update from Stuart Crosby and Susan Freeman-Green
- Update from Auckland Council reps Cr Alf Filipaina, Cr Angela Dalton, Danielle grant, Cindy Schmidt, Nerissa Henry, Deputy Mayor Bill Cashmore, Cr Pippa Coom, Richard Northey and Cr Richard Hills
- Workshop on the Future of Local Government facilitated by Brendan O'Connor of Senate SHJ

**Date:** 10 September 2021

**Hosted by:** Auckland Council

**Chair:** Cr Pippa Coom and Chair Richard Northey

**No. in Attendance:** 40 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ Update from Stuart Crosby, Susan Freeman-Green and Jason Krupp
- Debrief from the LGNZ Conference and AGM

**Date:** 10 December 2021

**Hosted by:** Auckland Council

**Chair:** Cr Pippa Coom and Chair Richard Northey

**No. in Attendance:** 33 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ Update from Stuart Crosby, Jason Krupp and Grace Hall
- Update from Auckland Council reps: Cr Alf Filipaina, Deputy-Mayor Bill Cashmore, Cr Angela Dalton, Cr Pippa Coom, Chair Richard Northey and Member Nerissa Henry.
- Lesley Baddon and Simon King, RM Directors from Ministry for the Environment led a workshop on resource Management Reform.

**Date:** 11 March 2022

**Hosted by:** Auckland Council

**Chair:** Cr Pippa Coom and Chair Richard Northey

**No. in Attendance:** 27 members

The following presentations were received at the meeting:

- LGNZ Update from Stuart Crosby and Susan freeman-Green



- Update from Auckland Council reps: Mayor Phil Goff, Member Danielle Grant, Cr Pippa Coom, Chair Richard Northey, Cr Richard Hills, and Member Nerissa Henry
- Tonkin and Taylor presented on Climate Change: Managing risk and reducing our emissions.

**Date:** 18 May 2022

**Extraordinary Meeting**

**hosted by:** Auckland Council

**Chair:** Chair Richard Northey

**No. in Attendance:** 10

Proposed remits on Bylaw infringement notices and on the National Policy Statement on urban development were discussed. The first was endorsed and the second did not proceed.

**3. Conclusion**

Although the Auckland Zone differs from the others, being made up of just one Unitary Authority and 21 Local Boards, its members have found meetings particularly valuable to get a real insight into important national issues facing the whole of local government in Aotearoa New Zealand.

This has been a really challenging year for local government dealing with a significant reform agenda. The Auckland Zone provides a valuable forum to discuss issues relevant to Tāmaki Makarau and to report back to elected representatives on the work of LGNZ.

We wish to thank President Stuart, CEO Susan and LGNZ staff for taking the time to attend Auckland zone meetings and for their considerable mahi for the sector over the year.



**Auckland Zone Co-chairs Councillor Pippa Coom**



**Local Board Chair Richard Northey**

## Zone One Annual Report – 2021/2022

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**Chairperson:** Mayor Dr Jason Smith, Kaipara District Council

**Secretary:** Gavin Dawson, Kaipara District Council

**National Council representatives:** Mayor John Carter, Far North District Council

**Member authorities:**

Far North District Council

Northland Regional Council

Kaipara District Council

Whangarei District Council

### 1. Introductory Comment

The possible impacts of the proposed central government reforms have formed much of the discussions in the Zone over this reporting period. The Zone meetings have provided a space where many concerns and views have been able to be shared by all elected members, in response to information provided by staff from the relevant agencies and organisations.

Please note that the focus of Zone One meetings are matters related to machinery of governance. Policy and strategy matters are discussed in the Northland Forward Together forum which is attended by elected members, officials, and external organisations after a Zone meeting.

### 2. Meetings

**Date:** 27 July 2021

**Hosted by:** NRC

**Chair:** Mayor Smith

**No. in Attendance:** 30

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ update
- Future for Local Government workshop
- Regional governance matters
- Forum - question and answer session.

**Date:** 23 November 2021

**Hosted by:** KDC online

**Chair:** Mayor Smith

**No. in Attendance:** 33

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ update
- Future for Local Government discussions
- Regional governance matters
- Forum - question and answer session.

**Date: 29 March 2022**

**Hosted by: KDC online**

**Chair: Mayor Smith**

**No. in Attendance: 22**

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ sector update
- 2022 LGNZ AGM remit process and information
- Regional governance matters
- Forum - question and answer session.

**Date: 9 May 2022**

**Hosted by: KDC online**

**Chair: Mayor Smith**

**No. in Attendance: 20**

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Remit discussions and voting for 2022 LGNZ AGM.

### **3. Conclusion**

The Zone acknowledges that the future for local government is uncertain as central government reforms are worked through. The role of the Zone meeting plays an important part in providing a forum for all elected members to process and work through the changes as they come up.

There are many opportunities for LGNZ and the Zone to try to influence the outcomes of the proposed reforms. Renewed engagement between Zone 1 and Auckland is also important for the period ahead, especially considering the Three Waters Reforms and proposed Entity A with the Councils of the North (Zone 1) and Auckland.

This must be one of the focus points as the Zone moves beyond the 8 October 2022 elections and into a new Triennium.

**Mayor Dr Jason Smith**



**Chairperson, Zone One**

## Zone Two Annual Report – 2021/2022

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**Chairperson:** Mayor Toby Adams, Hauraki District Council

**Secretary:** Katina Conomos, Hauraki District Council

**National Council representatives:** Jim Mylchreest – Zone Two Representative, Mayor Waipā District Council  
Doug Leeder – Chair Regional Sector, Chair Bay of Plenty Regional Council  
Tamzin Letele - Young Elected Members, Whangamata Community Board  
Member, Thames-Coromandel District Council

**Member authorities:**

Bay of Plenty Regional Council Toi Moana	Taupo District Council
Gisborne District Council (until Nov 2021)	Tauranga City Council
Hamilton City Council	Thames-Coromandel District Council
Hauraki District Council	Waikato District Council
Kawerau District Council	Waikato Regional Council
Matamata-Piako District Council	Waipā District Council
Ōpōtiki District Council	Waitomo District Council
Ōtorohanga District Council	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
Rotorua Lakes Council	Whakatāne District Council
South Waikato District Council	

### 1. Introductory comment

Since the last report, Zone Two has held a two-day hui in person in Taupō and two subsequent meetings virtually.

Meeting virtually did mean that we were able to continue to connect, share information and extend support to one another. This was valuable while many of our members were experiencing lock downs in late 2021.

In October, Gisborne District Council applied to shift from Zone Two to Zone Three, on the grounds that the Council has more shared interests with its neighbours to the south, especially considering the three waters reform. Zone Two has enjoyed the warm hospitality of Tairāwhiti on many occasions (a favoured location for our two-day meetings), and whilst supportive of their shift, were sad to see them go.

This year we changed our meeting format, and rather than have a presentation from the LGNZ President and CEO, we instead have held a Q&A, with members providing questions in advance. This change has been welcomed by our membership and supported by LGNZ.

## 2. Meetings

**Date:** 22 & 23 July 2021  
**Hosted by:** Taupō District Council  
**Venue:** Suncourt Hotel and Conference Centre, Tauhara Rooms, 14 Northcroft Street, Taupō  
**Chair:** Mayor Toby Adams, Hauraki District Council  
**No. in attendance:** 78 members

- This two-day hui provided the opportunity for a broad range of presentations including a focus on community governance and current reforms with speakers from around NZ and one from the USA.
- Members expressed their appreciation for the intimate nature of this gathering and the ability to ask questions directly of the speakers.
- Local Government Think Tank Director, Peter McKinlay provided a presentation encouraging members to exert ownership over local government's future; and asserting that strengthening communities is also the best way to strengthen councils and show the local government's relevance and value.
- Following on from a workshop in the 2020/2021 year, with support from Local Government New Zealand, Zone Two again engaged Brendon O'Connor to facilitate a workshop to support our collective contributions to the Future for Local Government Review.
- Joining the meeting by Zoom, from Ohio USA, Director of Exploratory Research at the Kettering Foundation, Valerie Lemmie, encouraged members have genuine and understanding conversations with communities.
- Dr Anna Matheson, from Victoria University of Wellington provided an update on the health reforms and discussed opportunities for reorientating health systems towards communities.
- Dylan Tahau, Taupō District Council's Iwi and co-governance manager provided a presentation about how Taupō District Council works with its nine iwi partners
- Coordinator of the TUIA programme, Te Rehia Lake-Perez shared a video of a recent wananga and presentations were then received from two of the 73 rangatahi in the programme - Maringi Kete (Ōtorohanga rangitahi) and Mahora Manuel-Hepi (Taupō rangatahi).
- Government updates also featured on the agenda, with presentations from LGNZ, DIA regarding the three waters and Māori wards; Simpson Grierson regarding Resource Management reforms and MFE on the Waste Levy Implementation.

**Date:** 29 October 2021  
**Venue:** Virtual meeting by Zoom  
**Chair:** Mayor Toby Adams, Hauraki District Council  
**No. in attendance:** 72 members

- Due to the online format, this was a shorter meeting.
- Members had a general discussion regarding Government Covid-19 communications and local experiences.
- We received a presentation and held a Q&A with Future for Local Government Review Panel members Jim Palmer (Chair), Antoine Coffin, Penny Hulse and Gael Surgenor.
- Zone Two endorsed Gisborne District Council's request to shift from Zone Two to Zone Three.
- LGNZ President Stuart Crosby and Chief Executive Susan Freeman-Greene participated in a Q&A.

**Date:** 25 March 2022  
**Venue:** Virtual meeting by Zoom  
**Chair:** Mayor Toby Adams, Hauraki District Council  
**No. in attendance:** 58 members

- Due to the online format, this was a shorter meeting.
- Mayor Sam Broughton presented to Zone Two, providing his reflections on the Future for Local Government review.
- Ōpōtiki District Council Chief Executive Aileen Lawrie, and member of the Resource Management Reform Steering Group, provided a presentation to members about the Resource Management Reforms. Following Ms Lawrie's presentation, Zone Two members had the opportunity for questions and discussion.
- In addition to Q&A with LGNZ President Stuart Crosby and Chief Executive Susan Freeman-Greene, LGNZ presented on their campaign plans for the Local Government elections.

### 3. Conclusion

I wish to extend my gratitude to the Zone Two members for your support in my role as Chair of Zone Two. I have enjoyed the opportunity to lead in this role and continue to encourage member councils to support the Zone with the widest attendance possible.

Having solid relationships across our sector is vital as we move through the current reforms and reorientate the local government sector to best serve our communities. We are stronger together.



**Mayor Toby Adams**  
**Hauraki District Council**  
**Chair, Zone Two**



## Zone Three Annual Report - 2021/2022

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**Chairperson(s):** Mayor Andy Watson, Rangitikei District Council, and  
Mayor Craig Little, Wairoa District Council

**Secretary:** Courtney Hayward, Wairoa District Council

**National Council representatives:** Mayor Don Cameron, Ruapehu District Council

**Member authorities:**

Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Rangitikei District Council
Gisborne District Council	Ruapehu District Council
Hastings District Council	South Taranaki District Council
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Stratford District Council
Horizons Regional Council	Taranaki Regional Council
Horowhenua District Council	Tararua District Council
Manawatu District Council	Wairoa District Council
Napier City Council	Whanganui District Council
New Plymouth District Council	
Palmerston North City Council	

### 1. Introductory Comment

Over the past 12 months Zone Three has held two meetings. These have both been scheduled to be held in Whanganui but due to the Covid-19 environment were both moved online to be held in a zoom format. Due to the geographic distance of the co-chairs, Hastings District Council has hosted the chairs for both meetings as a mid-way point. Thank you to Hastings District Council for this hospitality.

Despite the online nature, the zone meetings have highlighted the work being undertaken by Local Government in a period of pandemics and reforms and have demonstrated the resilience and innovation that Councils are demonstrating for to benefit their communities.

This year has seen Tairāwhiti join Zone 3. A warm welcome to Gisborne District Council.

## 2. Meetings

**Date:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> Nov 2021  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ  
**Chair:** **Mayors Andy Watson and Craig Little**  
**No. in Attendance:** **44**

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- DIA update - Michael Lovett, Martyn Pinckard and Justine Smith
- Council Forestry Project - Lawrence Yule
- Covid-19 – Dr Ashley Bloomfield

**Date:** Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2022  
**Hosted by:** LGNZ  
**Chair:** **Mayors Andy Watson and Craig Little**  
**No. in Attendance:** **45**

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ Update – Susan Freeman-Greene and Stuart Crosby
- DIA Update – Martyn Pinckard
- Communities 4 Local Democracy – Helen Worboys

## 3. Conclusion

As Co-Chairs of Zone Three, we would like to thank member councils for their continued enthusiasm and support of these six-monthly meetings. The need to transition to online meetings, demonstrated the continued need for resilience and agility within the Covid-19 environment.

Feedback has been received from zone members that the face-to-face component of these meetings has been greatly missed. Zone three is hoping that the next meeting can be facilitated in person and are looking forward to meeting in Whanganui for the November 24th and 25th meeting.

With the current reforms underway and the sense of uncertainty being faced by many of our Councils, forums such as the Zone meeting are a valuable chance to be a collective and discuss issues that are pertinent across the zone. We thank LGNZ for the work that has already been undertaken on behalf of Councils and encourage this to continue and be shared with the zones.



**Mayor Andy Watson**  
**Zone Three Co-Chair**



**Mayor Craig Little**  
**Zone Three Co-Chair**

## Zone Four Annual Report – 2021/2022

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**Chairperson:** K.Gurunathan, Mayor, Kāpiti Coast District Council

**Secretary:** Tanicka Mason, Kāpiti Coast District Council

### **National Council**

#### **representatives for the**

**2019-2022 triennium:** Andy Foster | Metro Sector | Mayor, Wellington City Council

Wayne Guppy | Zone Four | Mayor, Upper Hutt City Council

#### **Member authorities:**

Carterton District Council

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Hutt City Council

Kāpiti Coast District Council

Masterton District Council

Masterton District Council

Porirua City Council

South Wairarapa District Council

Upper Hutt City Council

Wellington City Council

## **1. Introduction**

Zone 4 covers all the councils in the Wellington Region. For the year 2021/2022 Zone 4 has held two meetings, hosted by Kāpiti Coast District Council. Due to the ongoing effects of Covid 19, a further two meetings were scheduled but had to be cancelled.

Zone representatives are elected every three years, after the triennial elections, and hold office until the next triennial elections. The purpose of zones, as set out in the LGNZ constitution, is to:

- Be an electoral college for the appointment of National Council representatives;
- Be working for a member of LGNZ on a geographic basis;
- Provide an opportunity for two-way communication between these geographic areas and LGNZ – and LGNZ reports back to members on major national developments; and
- Provide networking, and information sharing opportunities.

## **2. Meetings**

**Date:** 6 August 2021

**Hosted by:** Kapiti Coast District Council

**Venue:** Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Lower Hutt, 5040

**Chair:** Mayor K. Gurunathan

**No. in Attendance:** 36 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- LGNZ Chief Executive's report (Susan Freeman-Greene, Chief Executive and Stuart Crosby, President, LGNZ)
- National Council Update (Mayor Wayne Guppy, Upper Hutt City Council)
- Three Waters (Allan Pragnell, Partnership Director, Three Waters Review)
- RMA Reform (Stephen Quinn, DLA Piper, Partner)
- Update on Central Local Government issues (Martyn Pinckard, Partnerships Director)
- Future of Local Government through a housing lens (Shamubeel Eaqub, CFA Sense Partners)

**Date:** 12 November 2021

**Hosted by:** Kapiti Coast District Council

**Venue:** Matui Function Room, Wharewaka Conference Centre, Wellington

**Chair:** Mayor K. Gurunathan

**No. in Attendance:** 32 members

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- Resource Management Reform (Hon David Parker)
- LGNZ Chief Executive's report (Susan Freeman-Greene, Chief Executive and Stuart Crosby, President, LGNZ)
- National Council Update (Mayor Wayne Guppy, Upper Hutt City Council)
- Climate Change Commission (Commissioner James Renwick)
- Keynote Speaker – Bernard Hickey
- Three Waters Update (Nick Davis Partnership Director, Three Waters Review)
- Update on Central Local Government issues (Martyn Pinckard, Partnerships Director)

### **3. Conclusion**

Zone Four has held two meetings under the LGNZ Zone Forum banner during the year 2021/2022.

The focus of the forum is to hear about regional and national issues that are particularly topical in local government. The forum puts the spotlight on local projects of interest which give attendees from across the region a regular opportunity to network, share ideas and carry out electoral college functions for Zone 4.

As conditions allow, future meetings will be held at a range of venues across the region, allowing councils to showcase their districts.



Janet Holborow  
**Deputy Chair, Zone Four**

## Zone Five and Six Annual Report – 2021/2022

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<b>Chairperson:</b>	Mayor Sam Broughton (Zone 5) and Mayor Bryan Cadogan (Zone 6)
<b>Secretary:</b>	Sean Tully (Zone 5) and Justine Barrie (Zone 6)
<b>National Council representatives:</b>	Mayor Sam Broughton, Selwyn District Council Mayor Gary Kircher, Waitaki District Council

### Member authorities:

#### Zone 5

Ashburton District Council  
 Buller District Council  
 Chatham Islands Council  
 Christchurch City Council  
 Environment Canterbury  
 Grey District Council  
 Hurunui District Council  
 Kaikōura District Council  
 Mackenzie District Council  
 Marlborough District Council  
 Nelson City Council  
 Selwyn District Council  
 Tasman District Council  
 Waimakariri District Council  
 Waimate District Council  
 West Coast Regional Council  
 Westland District Council

#### Zone 6

Central Otago District Council  
 Clutha District Council  
 Dunedin City Council  
 Environment Southland  
 Gore District Council  
 Invercargill City Council  
 Otago Regional Council  
 Queenstown-Lakes District Council  
 Southland District Council  
 Waitaki District Council

### 1. Introductory Comment

During the last 12-month period Zone 5&6 held two in person meetings in Christchurch and two online meetings due to the restrictions imposed by COVID 19. The Zone 5 conference on May 9 was surrendered to the rescheduled Zone 5&6 meetings. Sadly, Timaru District Council withdrew from LGNZ in Oct 2021 and did not participate in any Zone 5&6 activity or meetings. Zones Five/Six also held independent Zone meetings regarding the Governments Three Waters Reform discussions and held joint engagement on this proposed reform.

**Meetings****LGNZ Zone 5 & 6 Working Lunch to discuss Three Waters****Date:** 4 Aug 21**Hosted by:** Christchurch Zone 5**Chair:** Mayor Sam Broughton**No. in Attendance:** 40

Focus towards developing feedback regarding the proposed Entity structure and the recently announced financial support package. Immediately following the event was a Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu 'Progressing the Takiwā Approach' Hui on the same subject.

**LGNZ Zone 5 & 6****Date:** 14th & 15th October 21**Hosted by:** Christchurch Zone 5 LGNZ**Chair:** Mayor Sam Broughton**No. in Attendance:** 65

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- **Welcome & confirmation of previous minutes**  
Mayors Lianne Dalziel, Sam Broughton & Bryan Cadogan
- **LGNZ Update & Discussion**  
President Stuart Crosby & Chief Executive Susan Freeman-Greene.
- **Future for Local Government - Update & Discussion**  
Jim Palmer Chair FfLG Panel
- **RMA Review - Update & Discussion**  
Liz Moncrieff, Director in the RM Reform work programme. Presentation and discussion
- **South Island Destination Management Plan – Where next**  
Loren Heapy ChristchurchNZ
- **South Island Economic Update**  
Brad Olsen, Principal Economist Infometrics
- **National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). Is your council prepared?**  
James Hurdell - Manager NCSC Cyber Resilience Unit.
- **Privacy and your Council John Edwards**  
The Privacy Commissioner
- **South Island Health Board - Update & Discussion**
- **Deputy Director Health and Disability Review Transition Unit (by Zoom)**
- **The Reform Agenda**  
Michael Lovett DIA Deputy Chief Executive

- **Three Waters - Update & Discussion**
- **An evening dinner** was attended by MPs including a speech by Professor Paul Dalziel (Deputy Director, Agribusiness and Economics Research Unit, Lincoln University)
  - Matt Doocey -WMK
  - Duncan Webb - ChCh Central
  - Poto Williams - ChCh East
  - Joseph Mooney – Southland

**LGNZ Zone 5 & 6**

**Date:** 14th March 22

**Hosted by:** Online

**Chair:** Mayor Bryan Cadogan

**No. in Attendance:** 75

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- **Welcome, apologies and opening comments**  
Mayors Sam Broughton & Bryan Cadogan
- **LGNZ Update**  
President Stuart Crosby / CE Susan Freeman-Greene
- **Future for Local Government Update**  
Mayor Sam Broughton – Working Group
- **Three Waters Reform Update**  
Mayor Tim Cadogan & Mayor Lianne Dalziel – Governance Working Group update  
Mayor Bryan Cadogan – Rural Supplies Working Group update
- **South Island Economic Update**  
Brad Olsen, Principal Economist Infometrics
- **RMA Review - Update & Discussion**  
Liz Moncrieff, Director in the RM Reform work programme. Presentation and discussion
- **Closing Comments additional discussion points**  
Mayors Sam Broughton & Bryan Cadogan

**LGNZ Zone 5 & 6**

**Date:** 9 May 22

**Hosted by:** Online

**Chair:** Mayor Sam Broughton

**No. in Attendance:** 53

The following presentations were received at this meeting:

- **LGNZ Update**  
President Stuart Crosby / CE Susan Freeman-Greene
- **Three Waters Reform Update**



Mayor Bryan Cadogan – Rural Supplies Working Group update

- **FfLG update and Q&A discussion**

Jim Palmer – Chair FfLG review panel

- **South Island Economic Update**

Brad Olsen, Principal Economist Infometrics

- **South Island Freight update & discussion**

Councillor Peter Scott ECan

- **RMA Review - Update & Discussion.**

Liz Moncrieff, Director in the RM Reform work programme. Presentation & discussion

- **NEMA Regulatory Framework Review Update**

Adam Allington, NEMA Trifecta

## 2. Conclusion

The combined Zone Five/Six meetings in were all very well attended by each Local Authorities. It was considered that the effect of resorting to online meetings for the latter half of the year had a detrimental effect on the ability of the Zone make meaningful progress and strengthen relationships.



**Bryan Cadogan**  
Chair, Zone Six



**Sam Broughton**  
Chair, Zone Five

# 8

## General business

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The next Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting date and venue will be announced at the AGM.

Who's  
putting local  
issues on  
the national  
agenda?

**We are.  
LGNZ.**  
Te Kāhui Kaunihera o Aotearoa.

10 June 2022

Mayor Rehette Stoltz  
Gisborne District Council  
P O Box 747  
Gisborne

Kia ora Rehette,

### **Gambling Act remit**

Thank you for your remit asking LGNZ to work with central government to amend the Gambling Act 1993 and Racing Industry Act 2020, and seek additional gambling-harm reduction measures and strategies. These include advocating for a review of funding for charities and community organisations to lessen or remove their reliance on gaming machine trusts. We acknowledge the time and effort that Gisborne District Council has put into preparing its remit application.

Your proposed remit addresses several frustrations that territorial authorities have experienced since the Gambling Act was enacted, which boil down to the lack of effective powers to make a difference to the level of gambling harm in their communities. We know that this has significant implications for community wellbeing outcomes and share the concerns that your proposed remit raises. LGNZ has actively raised the issues your remit seeks to address (and others) over a number of years. We continue to raise the issues in ongoing discussions with officials.

Because this is already firmly on our radar, the Remit Screening Committee have agreed that your proposed remit does not need the endorsement of the AGM to be actioned.

Instead, the Committee has decided to refer your proposed remit to National Council with a recommendation that LGNZ writes directly to the Minister highlighting the concerns expressed in the remit. It also recommends that we continue to engage in discussions with officials about those concerns and ensure that the issues are raised in LGNZ's ongoing contributions to the Future for Local Government Review Panel.

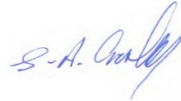
We are committed to providing much more regular and comprehensive updates to our members on the progress we are making with remits, including remits referred to National Council, noting that we have ultimate control over their outcome. We'd also welcome the opportunity to work closely with your team as progress these issues with central government.

If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact Mike Reid, Principal Policy Advisor at [mike.reid@lgnz.co.nz](mailto:mike.reid@lgnz.co.nz).

Ngā mihi nui,



Susan Freeman-Greene  
**Chief Executive**  
Local Government New Zealand



Stuart Crosby  
**President**  
Local Government New Zealand

## 10. Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Elected Members Reports for DECISION



22-187

**Title:** 22-187 Code of Conduct Complaint  
**Section:** Democracy & Support Services  
**Prepared by:** Cr Wharehinga – Conduct Review Committee Chair  
**Meeting Date:** Wednesday 27 July 2022

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Legal: Yes

Financial: No

Significance: **Low**

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### Report to Extraordinary COUNCIL for decision

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with the Conduct Review Committee's (the Committee) findings in relation to alleged breaches of the Gisborne District Council Nga Tikanga Arataki – Ethics and Values for Elected Members – Code of Conduct (Code).

#### SUMMARY

The Committee received two complaints from Councillor Foster and Councillor Gregory against one Councillor, Councillor Akuhata-Brown. Generally, the complaint alleged disrespectful comments to the media.

#### Committee Findings:

Having given consideration to the evidence provided to the Committee and having provided opportunities for the complainants and respondent to talk to the Committee about their complaints and responses, we conclude on the balance of probabilities that Councillor Akuhata-Brown's conduct has on this occasion constituted a breach of the Code. In particular;

1. Section 3 Values/Nga Uara

*An elected member will act in the public interest: elected members will serve the best interests of the people within their community, district or region and discharge their duties conscientiously, to the best of their ability.*

*An elected member will build public trust: elected members, in order to foster community confidence and trust in their Council, will work together constructively and uphold the values of honesty, **integrity**, accountability and transparency.*

**An elected member will show respect for others:** will treat people, including other elected members, with respect and courtesy, regardless of their race, age, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or disability. This also includes sexual, racial or other harassment; or bullying, intimidation or unwelcome behaviour towards employees, customers or members of the community.

## 2. Section 5 Relationships

Given the importance of relationships to the effective performance of the Council, elected members will conduct their dealings with each other in a manner that: • **maintains public confidence**; • is open, honest and courteous; • is focused on issues rather than personalities; • avoids abuse of meeting procedures, such as a pattern of unnecessary notices of motion and/or repetitious points of order; and • **avoids aggressive, offensive or abusive conduct, including the use of disrespectful or malicious language**; and • avoid any form of bullying or sexual harassment. Any failure by elected members to act in the manner described above represents a breach of this Code.

## 3. Section 6 Contact with the media

- **media comments must observe the other requirements of the Code**, for example, comments should not disclose confidential information, criticise or compromise the impartiality of staff; and
- media comments must not be misleading and should be accurate within the bounds of reasonableness.

## 4. Section 10 Ethical behaviour

**Elected Members will seek to promote the highest standards of ethical and respectful conduct.**

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

**That the Council:**

1. **Approves the Conduct Review Committee findings and finds that Councillor Akuhata-Brown breached sections 3,5,6 and 10 of Nga Tikanga Arataki – Ethics and Values for Elected Members (Code of Conduct).**
2. **Approves the Conduct Review Committee's recommendation that Councillor Akuhata-Brown makes a public apology in this meeting.**
3. **Approves the Conduct Review Committee's recommendation that Councillor Akuhata-Brown makes a written apology in the Gisborne Herald.**

*Authorised by:*

**Josh Wharehinga - District Councillor**

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**Keywords:** code, conduct, review, committee, ethics, values, findings, apology

## **BACKGROUND**

1. The Committee is tasked to investigate any alleged breaches of the Code. The Committee receives written complaints and after investigating, provides a findings report to the Mayor and the parties of the complaint.
2. If the breach is material, then the Committee reports to Council.
3. The Committee consists of Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Councillor Terry Sheldrake and Councillor Sandra Faulkner.
4. Councillor Sheldrake was recused due to a matter of a perceived conflict of interest.
5. The Committee studied all written material and the parties involved had the opportunity to talk to the Committee.
6. The Committee followed a robust and thorough process, as set out in the Code.

## **DISCUSSION and OPTIONS**

### **Committee Comments**

7. The Committee would like to acknowledge the open and forthright manner in which all parties engaged in this process. We acknowledge the resolution options that were offered however the Committee can only consider the things that our agreed Code of Conduct outline as formal means of resolution under section 13.1.
8. The Committee notes that Cr Akuhata-Brown has acknowledged that she owns what has happened and that she had fallen short when dealing with the media. We commend these acknowledgements.
9. The Committee understands from Cr Akuhata-Brown that she was shocked in the impact her comments had on those closest to her.
10. While there has been some debate about the nature of the Gisborne Herald article, the fact remains that the Herald used direct quotes from Cr Akuhata-Brown, and while she may not have remembered exactly what was said, she also did not dispute the accuracy of the comments she made. Whether Cr Akuhata-Brown remembers those quotes or not, there is a record of them being said and the printing of them in the paper caused harm.
11. While the Committee understands that Councillors should be able to express themselves freely to the media, Nga Tikanga Arataki is explicit that media comments must observe the other requirements of the Code.

### **Footnote:**

12. The Committee would like to remind Councillors again that your behaviour outside of the Chambers and Council meetings may come under the Code. Please behave accordingly.
13. The Committee strongly recommends that all councillors undergo media training at the beginning of every new term.

## ASSESSMENT of 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:** Medium Significance

**This Report:** Medium Significance

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

**Overall Process:** Low Significance

**This Report:** Medium Significance

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

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - 11 June 2022 News Article [**22-187.1** - 2 pages]



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## Gisborne Mayor given chains because she fit the stereotype: councillor

by Matthew Rosenberg

Published June 11, 2022 11:18AM

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Meredith Akuhata-Brown: The third-term district councillor says Tairāwhiti is still fraught with racial inequalities and relationships are key for connecting with those still trying to eke out a living in the middle and lower classes. Picture by Liam Clayton

A Gisborne councillor has called into question the mayor's ability to lead the region forward, saying her background makes it hard to understand issues affecting Māori.

Third-term councillor Meredith Akuhata-Brown made the comments about Mayor Rehette Stoltz following questions about her intention to stand for the top position at the next election.

Cr Akuhata-Brown, who unsuccessfully contested the mayoralty in 2019, said she was unsure if she would run against Mayor Stoltz in local body elections in October. Part of the reason was she felt her chances were impacted by not fitting the stereotype of what power looked like.

"When Rehette first ran for council, she was elected duly based on 'that's what councils look like across the nation'," Cr Akuhata-Brown said. "She's the deputy mayor within a couple of terms ... she's formidable ... she's young. There's no fight for the position. It's handed to her.

First elected to council in 2010, then-Cr Stoltz was appointed deputy mayor by Mayor Meng Foon in 2013.

When Mayor Foon left his position to become the Race Relations Commissioner in 2019, she was made mayor in the interim.

She cruised to mayoral victory in local body elections later that year with 10,589 votes, ahead of second-placed Akuhata-Brown (3845).





"We go through an election campaign when the position has already been filled."

On her website, South African-born Stoltz shares her journey to the top elected position at Gisborne District Council.

Arriving in New Zealand in 2001 for her OE, she took a "holiday job" as the laboratory manager for a wine business before deciding to commit to Tairāwhiti long term with partner Deon.

After a conversation with former councillor Kathy Sheldrake in 2009, she decided to run for council the following year. Her background is in cardiovascular physiology and she also ran a recruitment business.

Cr Akuhata-Brown argues Stoltz was handed the chains without much debate among councillors when Mayor Foon left prematurely.

"It's really easy for people from overseas. They come to our place highly qualified, and they are looked upon favourably, and they get position without fighting for it.

"If you are a certain look, that is particularly not Māori, you are highly probable to get that position."

Cr Akuhata-Brown said she was being a "vocal local" because she was invested in the region and wanted to highlight the issues that came with integrating governance styles from overseas.

Tairāwhiti was still fraught with racial inequalities and relationships were key for connecting with those who were still trying to eke out a living in the middle and lower classes, she said.

"Those who have money and wealth and governance roles, they can just get on with their lives and not be bothered by any of that because they can just put up higher fences.

"For Māori and Pasifika, the voice hasn't been there for centuries."

Cr Akuhata-Brown's final criticism of Mayor Stoltz's leadership was she had been left alone with no extra jobs and it felt like there were low expectations.

Hoping to be made a committee chair in her third term, Cr Akuhata-Brown said positions had instead gone to people who supported the Mayor 100 percent.

"There's a real sense that to get position and acknowledgement, you have to be very much on side.

"We don't even talk. It's just a non-relationship."

Mayor Stoltz responded to the criticisms, saying Gisborne had been home for 21 years and she had made a concerted effort to get a deeper understanding of the multicultural community.

That included completing a year-long Tikanga Māori course and becoming a member of the council's waiata group.

Under her leadership, Māori wards had been unanimously voted in and memorandums of understanding signed with hapū.

"I have good working relationships with our iwi leaders and regularly meet to discuss and make decisions in regard to issues that are important to us as a region."

Appointment to committees and chair positions were made on interest expressed by councillors, experience and merit, she said.

"I won the mayoralty with more than a 7000-vote majority.

"Mayoralties are not handed down. They are voted on by the community."

The upcoming local election is set for October 8.

## 11. Public Excluded Business

### RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

#### Section 48, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION and MEETINGS ACT 1987

That:

1. **The public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:  
PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS – Decision Report**

Item 12.1 22-169 Gisborne Holdings Limited Director Appointment Extensions 2022

2. **This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information & Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:**

Item 12.1 7(2)(a) Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.